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No. 8.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 92, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May 1891.

LONDON:
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1891.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

No.	Colony.	Year.
75	Sierra Leone	1888
76	Gold Coast (Sanitary Reports)	"
77	Hong Kong	"
78	Ceylon	"
79	Fiji	"
80	Lagos	"
81	Victoria	"
82	Leeward Islands	"
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic)	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report)	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry)	—
86	Heligoland	1889
87	Newfoundland	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues	"
89	Zululand	1889
90	Gibraltar	"
91	Grenada	"
92	Bermuda	"
93	St. Vincent	1888
94	St. Vincent	1889
95	Bahamas	"
96	St. Lucia	"
97	British Bechuanaland	1888–9
98	Turk's and Caicos	1889
99	Gambia	"
100	Straits Settlements	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's Visit)	1890
103	British New Guinea	1888–9
104	Natal	1889
105	Malta	"
106	British Guiana	"
107	Barbados	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago	"
109	Western Australia	"
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture)	1890
111	Labuan	1889
112	Jamaica	"
113	Falkland Islands	"
114	Basutoland	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone	1889
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5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890

No. 8.

BERMUDA.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 92, Old Series.]

Lieut.-General NEWDEGATE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Bermuda, April 1, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith in duplicate the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, together with the report of Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary, thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDW. N. NEWDEGATE,
Lieut.-General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.,
&c. &c. &c.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hamilton,
SIR, Bermuda, March 18, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1890:—

Finance.

2. The revenue derived from the ordinary sources during the year was 32,394*l.*, and the expenditure 30,270*l.*; the excess of revenue over expenditure was therefore 2,124*l.* Compared with 1889 the revenue shows an increase of 2,456*l.*, and the expenditure an increase of 180*l.* In the revenue and expenditure returns the amounts raised by loan and expended during the year are not included.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1890 with that of 1889:—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1889	23,017	6,921	29,938
1890	27,048	5,346	32,394
Increase	4,031	—	2,456
Decrease	—	1,575	—

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Expenditure.

	Salaries.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
	£	£	£
1889 - - - -	9,918	20,172	30,090
1890 - - - -	10,188	20,082	30,270
Increase - - -	270	—	180
Decrease - - -	—	90	—

The receipts from the Customs last year, when compared with 1889, show an increase under every heading with the exception of the "Landing tax," in which there is a small decrease; the increase in the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duties amounting to 1,476*l.*, in malt liquor 387*l.*, in rum 938*l.*, in other spirits 871*l.*, in tobacco and snuff 298*l.*, and in cigars 61*l.*

The increase in the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duties is due to an increase of price of some imports and an increased quantity imported. The import duties on rum and other spirits having been increased from 4*s.* to 5*s.* per gallon, on tobacco from 2*d.* to 6*d.* per lb., and on cigars from 10*s.* to 15*s.* per 1,000 from the 1st of July last, accounts to a great extent for the increased receipts under these headings.

The ordinary miscellaneous receipts in 1890 were slightly in excess of those for 1889, but a special payment made in 1889 of 1,800*l.* by the trustees of the Savings Bank increased the revenue shown under "other receipts" for that year, and accounts for the decrease in 1890 under that heading.

Compared with 1889 the following differences are shown in the disbursements:—

		£
Salaries - - -	an increase of -	270
Agricultural - -	„ -	275
Educational - -	„ -	100
Gaols - - -	„ -	121
Miscellaneous payments -	„ -	364
Public health - -	„ -	205
Works and buildings -	„ -	1,509
Whilst in—		
Administration of justice there was a decrease of - -	- -	723
Payment of public debt -	a decrease of -	800
Interest - - -	„ -	249
Legislative - -	„ -	220
Lighthouses - -	„ -	120
Post Office - -	„ -	152
Roads - - -	„ -	245

4. The returns of Imperial expenditure are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary - - -	2,200
Military establishments - - -	100,376

Compared with the preceding year the latter return shows an increase of 6,925*l.*

The expenditure of the naval establishment is not returned.

Public Debt.

5. Whilst 500*l.* was paid off during the year, the public debt has increased from 7,220*l.* to 7,620*l.* The increase is due to the issue of Treasury debentures to the value of 900*l.* for the purposes of a new Government House now in course of erection.

The public debt at the end of 1890 was made up as follows:—

	£
Causeway debentures - - -	1,620
New Government House debentures -	6,000

The average rate of interest on these loans is 4½ per cent.

Legislation.

6. There was a special session of the Colonial Parliament, which commenced on the 27th March and lasted to the 30th April. Two Acts were passed during this session, namely, "An Act to provide for the discharge of the duties of the Chief Justice during his absence," and "An Act to facilitate in these islands the operations of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited."

During the regular session, which commenced on the 30th of May, and which was carried on over the end of the year, 37 Acts were passed.

Of these 10 were mere continuing Acts, and three continuing Acts with unimportant amendments.

Of the remainder the following were the more important:—

(No. 6.) "An Act to incorporate the Bank of Bermuda, Limited."

(No. 7.) "An Act to amend the Hamilton Gaol Acts, 1879–1881."

(No. 25.) "An Act to make provision for the completion of the new Government House."

(No. 29.) "An Act to provide for the inspection of potatoes, onions, and tomatoes before exportation from these islands."

(No. 37.) "An Act to facilitate the performance of the duties of Justices of the Peace with respect to indictable offences."

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By Act No. 6 a local bank is incorporated, with a capital fixed at 8,000*l.*, to be subscribed for within six months after the passing of the Act. By Act No. 7 out of the proceeds of certain funds invested in England the Board of Public Works is authorised to build in accordance with revised plans a new gaol in Hamilton at a cost not exceeding 6,150*l.*

By Act No. 25 a further grant of 4,300*l.* is made to provide for the completion of the new Government House, which building has already cost the Colony 9,000*l.* Money voted on this account is raised by debentures, which are to be paid off at the rate of 500*l.* per annum. Act No. 29 was passed with the object of preventing as far as possible the practice of packing for exportation small or inferior vegetables in such a manner as to deceive purchasers.

The object of Act No. 37 is sufficiently explained by its title.

During the regular session 16 resolves were passed, appropriating 6,043*l.* for services not otherwise provided for by law.

Councils and Assembly.

7. Mr. R. D. Darrell, Solicitor-General, was appointed a member of the Legislative Council on the 7th July.

The Colonial Parliament, which was first summoned in May 1883, having been in existence for nearly the full period (seven years) allowed by law, was dissolved in February last, and a general election for members of the House of Assembly was held the same month.

Of the 36 members then returned, 28 had been members of the old House.

The number of persons qualified to vote at this election was 1,167, or an average of 32 electors for every member. The number of persons who actually voted was 1,007.

The property qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at 240*l.*; for an elector, freehold property, which must be in the parish to be represented, rated at 60*l.*

Civil Establishment.

8. His Excellency the Governor was absent on leave from the 2nd of October to the 7th of December. During his absence Colonel the Honourable Herbert F. Eaton, Grenadier Guards, the senior military officer then in the command, administered the Government.

Consequent on the death of Mr. Charles Henry Smith, Assistant Receiver-General, in March, Mr. Joseph H. S. Frith, Treasury Clerk, was appointed in that month Acting Assistant Receiver-General, Mr. Cecil H. Tucker, Revenue Officer,

Hamilton, taking over the duties of Treasury Clerk, and Mr. Benjamin G. Barnett the duties of Revenue Officer, Hamilton.

Mr. C. M. McCallan, clerk in the Post Office, St. George's, was transferred in December to the Revenue Department and appointed Revenue officer at St. George in the room of Mr. T. W. Lightbourn, who resigned that office on the grounds of advancing years and failing health.

Mr. Lightbourn had been in the public service for upwards of 13 years, and was granted by the Legislature a gratuity of 160*l.* on his retirement.

Mr. Van Osdoll S. Brown was appointed to the vacant office of clerk in the Post Office, St. George's.

The Chief Justice of the Colony having been granted leave of absence extending over the April Session of the Court of General Assize, Mr. R. D. Darrell was appointed to act as Chief Justice during that session of the Court.

Surgeon-Major Reily, Army Medical Staff, was appointed Health Officer at St. George's in the room of Surgeon-Major W. B. Miller transferred to Prospect on military duty.

Imports.

9. The total value of the imports in 1890 was 308,016*l.*, showing an increase compared with 1889 of 35,413*l.* and with 1888 of 8,026*l.*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1889 and 1890 is shown in the following table :—

	1889.	1890.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	70,490	92,739
British Colonies - - -	21,806	25,464
United States of America - -	179,920	188,975
Other countries - - -	387	838
Totals - - -	272,603	308,016

Exports.

10. The value of the exports amounted to 137,526*l.*, an increase compared with 1889 of 72,550*l.*, or more than double the value of the exports for that year, and compared with 1888 an increase of 37,876*l.*

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The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in the years 1889 and 1890:—

	1889.	1890.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	2,314	2,038
British Colonies - - - -	2,273	4,286
United States of America - - -	59,770	130,928
Other countries - - - -	619	274
Total - - - -	64,976	137,526

The marked increase in the value of the exports is to be attributed nearly entirely to the remunerative prices obtained last year for the agricultural products of these islands in the New York market.

In 1889 about 290,000 crates of onions were sent to New York, valued at a little over 31,750*l.*; last year, though about 10,000 crates less were sent, the value of the crop was over 82,550*l.*

The value of the potato crop sent to New York in 1890 was 33,227*l.*, an increase compared with the preceding year of 13,334*l.* The value of the lily bulbs, tomatoes, and beets exported to the same place in 1890 was 7,957*l.*, 2,413*l.*, and 1,054*l.* respectively, compared with 3,527*l.*, 770*l.*, and 584*l.* in 1889.

Population and Public Health.

11. The Registrar-General estimated the civilian population of these islands at the end of 1890 at 15,884, comprising 6,293 white and 9,591 coloured persons.

The birth rate was 32·1 and the death rate 21·02 per 1,000. In 1889 the death rate was 18·86 per 1,000. The increased death rate in 1890 appears to be attributable to the large number of deaths from whooping-cough and pneumonia which occurred during the year, the former disease being returned as the cause of 20 deaths and the latter of 15, compared with three deaths from each of the above-mentioned diseases respectively in 1889.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1890 was 2,921, and the deaths were 24, the rate of mortality thus being 8·21 per 1,000. Of these deaths 12 were due to enteric fever.

The Senior Medical Officer of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. Average strength of garrison, 1,546. Admissions to hospital, 988; ratio of admissions per 1,000 of strength, 639·1.

Deaths 18, or a proportion of 11·64 per 1,000; four of these deaths occurred out of hospital, 10 deaths were due to enteric fever. Average daily sick 44·65; average duration of each case of sickness, 16·50 days. Average strength of officers, 63; cases of sickness, 22; no deaths.

The principal naval medical officer reports that three diseases prevailed in an epidemic form on Ireland Island, during the past year, viz., whooping-cough, measles, and influenza. The two former were of a very mild nature and confined to the residents on Ireland Island, while the influenza occurred chiefly among the crews of Her Majesty's ships. This latter disease was brought to Bermuda by the Swedish corvette "Saga," which arrived on the 5th of March with upwards of 70 cases of influenza on board. She came inside the Camber on the 20th March, having a clean bill of health at the time.

On the 27th March the first case appeared on board the flagship; it soon became epidemic and spread to the other ships in the Camber; 332 cases were entered on the sick list besides a large number of cases too slight to be put on the sick list; only 11 cases occurred among the residents on Ireland Island, the remaining 321 being men and officers belonging to Her Majesty's ships.

The daily average strength of the naval forces at Bermuda corrected for time was 1,375. This includes 411 dockyardsmen and 292 men borne on the books of H.M.S. "Terror," a decrease of 140 as compared with 1889.

860 patients were under treatment during the year, an increase of 54 as compared with the previous year; this number includes all cases of disease or injury received from Her Majesty's ships, many of whom contracted their diseases on other parts of the station and were sent to the Royal Naval Hospital on the arrival of the fleet at Bermuda.

The increase in the number of patients was entirely due to the epidemic of measles and influenza, otherwise there would have been a considerable decrease.

Criminal Statistics.

12. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 423, a decrease compared with 1889 of 77 and with 1888 of 102.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 387, of whom 242 were summarily convicted, 64 discharged, 56 acquitted, and 25 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Twenty cases were tried in the superior courts during the year. The convictions numbered 13; of these two were for rape, six for other offences against the person, one for arson, and five came under the heading "Miscellaneous."

Gaols and Prisoners.

13. 84 persons (78 men, five women and one child) were committed to gaol during the year; of these 36 were committed for safe custody and 48 for the purpose of penal imprisonment.

The daily average number in prison was 25, the daily average on sick list three.

Lunatic Asylum.

14. Nine patients were admitted into the asylum; of these seven were males and two females. Six were discharged, five males and one female. There were four deaths, three males and one female.

Education.

15. The Inspector of Schools gives the following returns:—20 aided schools; 1,136 scholars. School fees, 562*l.*; Government contributions, 1,005*l.* There are no Government schools in Bermuda in the sense in which that term is understood in England, the schools refered to above being all private schools aided by grants from the Board of Education. The per-centage of average attendance to total for last year was 72. The attendance at school of many of the children is to a great extent regulated by the demands of field work, as during the crop season the children in the country parishes can find ready employment.

No returns are made of the other private schools, about 20 in number, which are not aided by grants.

Meteorological.

16. The meteorological observations taken at 10 a.m., 12 noon and 3 p.m. daily at the Government buildings, Hamilton, which are situated a few feet above the sea level, give the following results:—Mean temperature for year 73·5°; hottest month, August, with a mean of 82·2°; coolest, March, with a mean of 66·8°; total rainfall 50·86 inches; heaviest monthly fall in June, with 8·12 inches; least in August with 1·79 inches.

A table of meteorological observations, taken during the first nine months of the year at 9 a.m., and 3 p.m. daily, and at 8.41 a.m. and 8.41 p.m. during the last three months, at the observatory at Prospect Camp (151 feet above the sea level) published in the Registrar-General's report for 1890, shows the following results:—Mean pressure of the atmosphere for the year, 30.145 inches; mean maximum shade temperature for the year, 77·0°; mean minimum shade temperature for the year, 64·3°; mean degree of humidity for the year 72·7 per cent.; mean daily

horizontal movement, of the atmosphere 204·6 miles; total amount of rainfall, 56·90 inches. Rain fell on 178 days in the year; hail fell on 28th January and 13th April.

General.

17. The year 1890 was one of great prosperity in Bermuda, for not only were very remunerative prices obtained for the agricultural products of the islands in the United States, due to the fact that the early crops of onions and potatoes in the Southern States were injured by frost, but the number of visitors to these islands was unprecedentedly large.

The submarine cable between Halifax and Bermuda having been successfully laid at the end of June, the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, to whom the cable belongs, were able to open an office in Hamilton for the transaction of busines earl in July. The Company receives a subsidy from the Imperial Government of 8,100*l.* per annum for 20 years, and the charges at present made are 4*s.* per word to England and 3*s.* 3*d.* to the American continent. Government messages are charged half rates.

There can be little doubt that the establishment of cable communication will prove in the future beneficial to the Colony.

Statistical Returns.

The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1889 - - -	7,680	8,063	15,743
1890 - - -	7,767	8,117	15,884

	1889.	1890.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	29,938	32,394
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	30,089	30,270
Customs revenue - - - - -	23,017	27,048
Public debt - - - - -	7,220	7,620

	1889.	1890.
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	221,755	307,506
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	179,272	265,944
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	42,483	41,562
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	48,328	40,539
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	173,427	266,967
	£	£
Value of total imports - - - -	272,603	308,016
Value of imports from the United Kingdom -	70,490	92,739
Value of total exports - - - -	64,976	137,526
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom -	2,314	2,038

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
Lieut.-General Edward Newdigate Newdegate, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
4	Victoria	1889
5	Newfoundland	"
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	"
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	"
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
13	Gibraltar	"
14	Zululand	"
15	Sierra Leone	"
16	Barbados	"
17	Falkland Islands	"
18	Labuan	"
19	British Honduras	"
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	"
23	Grenada	"
24	Straits Settlements	"
25	British Guiana	"
26	St. Helena	"
27	Mauritius	"
28	Gambia	"
29	Hong Kong	"
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	"
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	"
34	Newfoundland	"
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

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[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 8.]

Governor NEWDEGATE to LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Bermuda, March 31, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

2. The books are completed with the exception of binding, and will be forwarded at an early date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDW. N. NEWDEGATE,
Lieut.-General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hamilton,

SIR, Bermuda, March 28, 1892.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1891 :—

Finance.

2. The revenue raised during the year amounted to 33,531*l.* against an expenditure of 32,029*l.*, the excess of revenue over expenditure thus being 1,502*l.* Compared with 1890 the revenue shows an increase of 1,137*l.*, and the expenditure an increase of 1,759*l.* In the revenue and expenditure returns the amounts raised by loan and expended during the year are not included, but a sum of 1,120*l.* applied in reduction of the public debt is included in the expenditure returns.

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3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1891 with that of 1890:—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1890 - - - -	27,048	5,346	32,394
1891 - - - -	27,839	5,692	33,531
Increase - - -	791	346	1,137

Expenditure.

	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1890 - - - -	15,683	14,587	30,270
1891 - - - -	15,447	16,582	32,029
Increase - - -	—	1,995	1,759
Decrease - - -	236	—	—

The revenue raised in 1891 shows, as above stated, an increase compared with 1890 of over 1,750*l.*, whilst 1890 showed an increase compared with 1889 of nearly 2,500*l.* The prosperity in the years 1890 and 1891 indicated by these figures is due nearly entirely to the following causes, the remunerative prices obtained during the last two years in the New York Market for the agricultural products of these islands, the presence during the greater part of these years of an additional battalion of infantry, and the increasing popularity of these islands as a place of winter resort for the people of the United States and Canada.

The ordinary expenditure in 1891 was less than that of the preceding year, but payments made for liabilities incurred in previous years were considerably larger, 620*l.*, more than in 1890, being devoted to the repayment of the public debt, and payments, which amounted to about 1,370*l.*, were made to the Washington and London Post Offices on account of transit charges incurred during the preceding three years on Bermuda mails.

Special expenditure, amounting to about 450*l.*, had also to be incurred in connection with the census.

Compared with 1890 the following were the principal differences shown in the disbursements:—

		£
Payment of public debt, an increase of	-	620
Legislative	„ -	504
Miscellaneous payments	„ -	1,248
Post Office	„ -	1,095
Whilst in the Public Works Office there was a decrease of - - - -		804
Annuities and gratuities, a decrease of	-	160
Judicial	„ -	481
Police	„ -	101
Public health	„ -	187

4. The returns of Imperial expenditure are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary - - -	2,200
Military establishments - - -	104,465

Compared with the preceding year the latter return shows an increase of 4,089*l.*

The expenditure of the naval establishments is not returned.

Public Debt.

5. Though 1,120*l.* was paid off during the year, the public debt has increased from 7,620*l.* to 8,600*l.* This is due to the issue of the remainder of the debentures authorised to be raised for the purpose of a new Government House.

The public debt at the end of 1891 was made up as follows:—

	£
Causeway debentures - - -	1,000
New Government House debentures -	7,600

The average rate of interest on these loans is 4½ per cent.

Legislation.

6. There was a special session of the Colonial Parliament, which commenced on the 14th January and lasted about a fortnight. During that period one Act was passed, namely, "An "Act to revise the Liquor License Acts, 1880 and 1882".

During the regular session, which commenced on the 28th May, and was carried on over the end of the year, 23 Acts were passed.

Of these Acts, the only one of much importance was:—

(No. 18.) "An Act for the Improvement of the Channels leading to Hamilton Harbour."

By this measure the Colonial Government is authorised to raise a loan of 40,000*l.* for the purpose of improving the channels leading from Grassy Bay to Hamilton Harbour, by straightening and

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deepening them so as to obtain a depth of 20 feet at mean low water.

During the regular session 22 Resolves were passed appropriating 7,436*l.* for services not otherwise provided for by law.

Civil Establishment.

7. His Excellency the Governor was absent on leave from the 6th August to 11th October, and Colonel Samuel Pym, R.A., the senior military officer then in the Command, administered the Government during that period. The Governor also left the Colony on the 7th December for the purpose of inspecting Her Majesty's Forces in the West Indies, and had not returned on the 31st December last. Colonel Pym, on this occasion, acted as the Governor's Deputy, in accordance with the provisions contained in certain Letters Patent, dated the 10th January 1891.

Mr. Alison, Colonial Secretary and Registrar General, was absent on leave from the 2nd April to the 25th October. Mr. James Tucker, C.M.G., acted as Colonial Secretary during that period, and Mr. Allan F. Smith, clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office, took over the duties of the Registrar-General.

Dr. Henry J. Hinson, who had been connected with the Lunatic Asylum for upwards of 42 years, was compelled, owing to failing health, to resign his appointment as medical superintendent of that institution on the 19th November, and Dr. Eldon Harvey was on that date appointed to fill the vacancy. The Legislature granted to Dr. Hinson on his retirement a gratuity of 300*l.*

Imports.

8. The total value of the imports in 1891 was 325,976*l.*, showing an increase compared with 1890 of 17,960*l.* and with 1889 of 53,373*l.*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1890 and 1891 is shown in the following table :—

	1890.	1891.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	92,739	85,775
British North America - -	12,881	22,031
Other British Colonies - -	12,583	8,511
United States of America - -	188,975	205,906
Other countries - - -	838	3,753
Totals - - -	308,016	325,976

The imports from the United Kingdom in 1891 consisted principally of clothing valued at 3,733*l.*, cotton, woollen, and silk goods at 29,874*l.*, jewellery and plated ware at 1,205*l.*, leather manufacturers at 2,506*l.*, oilmen's stores at 4,520*l.*, malt liquor at 19,738*l.*, whisky at 1,610*l.*, and wine at 3,199*l.*

The imports from the United States and British North America consisted principally of food supplies, lumber, and box material, glass ware and leather manufactures.

Exports.

9. The value of the exports amounted to 129,803*l.* Compared with 1890 this shows a decrease of 7,723*l.*, but with 1889 an increase of no less than 69,414*l.*

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1890 and 1891:—

	1890.	1891.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	2,038	1,794
British Colonies - - - -	4,286	3,457
United States of America - - -	130,928	123,259
Other countries - - - -	274	1,293
Total - - -	137,526	129,803

The exports of these islands consist almost entirely of potatoes, onions, and lily bulbs shipped to New York in the months of April and May.

The crop season in 1891 was a good one, the exports being somewhat larger than in the previous year, but a fall in the price of onions caused the slight decrease shown in the value of the exports.

Small quantities of arrowroot, tomatoes, cut flowers, and beets are also exported.

Population and Public Health.

10. The census taken on the 5th of April last showed that the resident civil population of these islands on that date consisted of 15,013 persons, the white population numbering 5,690 (2,739

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males and 2,951 females), the coloured 9,323 (4,297 males and 5,026 females).

The Registrar-General in his annual report for the year deduces, from a comparison of the census returns of 1881 and 1891 with the returns of births and deaths, between those dates, that there was an excess of immigration over emigration in the case of the white population during the past intercensal period amounting in round numbers to 100, this excess being due principally to the immigration of Portuguese from the Azores and Madeira.

In the case of the coloured population, however, there appears to have been a loss of 340 by emigration.

The birth rate was 33·3 and the death rate 20·7 per 1,000. The infants registered as born out of wedlock numbered 86 and were in the proportion of 14·6 to 100 births. Of these births four were white and 82 coloured. The proportion of deaths of infants in the first year of life to registered living births, or the infantile mortality, was 16·5 per 100.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1891 was 3,076, and the deaths were 12, the rate of mortality thus being only 3·9 per 1,000. Of these deaths five were due to enteric fever and three to drowning.

The Senior Medical Officer of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been very good. Average strength of garrison, 1,601; number of admissions to hospital, 773; ratio of admissions per 1,000 of strength, 482·8; number of deaths, 5, all of which were due to enteric fever. Average daily sick, 40·69; average sick time to each soldier, 9·28 days; average duration of each case of sickness, 19·21 days; average strength of officers, 70; cases of sickness, 19; no deaths.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the average daily strength of the naval forces at Bermuda during the year 1891, corrected for the time that each ship remained in port, was 1,475; an increase of 100 as compared with the previous 12 months. This includes 483 men employed in the dockyard, and 283 borne on the books of H.M.S. "Terror."

The number of cases of disease and injury coming under treatment was 779; a decrease compared with the previous year, which would have been larger but for the epidemic of influenza which prevailed in the midsummer quarter.

Ecclesiastical Returns.

11. The following table shows the numbers belonging to the several religious denominations in the Colony, taken from the census of 1891, and the accommodation and average attendance in the respective churches and chapels of each denomination taken

from the ecclesiastical returns, which are based upon information furnished by the ministers of the respective churches:—

Denominations.	Numbers according to Census.	Accommodation in Churches.	Average Attendance.
Church of England - -	10,627	5,400	3,451
Presbyterian - - - -	624	710	400
Wesleyan Methodists - -	1,516	3,185	1,750
Roman Catholic - - -	565	400	400
African Methodist Episcopal - -	1,292	2,225	1,575
Reformed Church of England - -	139	300	100
All other denominations - -	250	—	—
Totals - - -	15,013	12,220	7,676

The amount of assistance granted to the different denominations out of the public funds is based on the returns obtained by the census, 10*l.* being allowed for every 100 persons in professed connexion with the respective denominations.

Criminal Statistics.

12. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 377, a decrease compared with 1890 of 46 and with 1889 of 123.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 341, compared with 387 in 1890, and 475 in 1889.

The number of cases tried in the superior courts during the year was 14, and the convictions numbered 9; of these six were for offences against the person, and three for offences against property.

In 1890 the number of cases tried in the superior courts was 17, and the convictions numbered 13. In 1889 the number of cases tried was 30, and the convictions numbered 21.

Gaols and Prisoners.

13. The number of persons confined in the gaols in 1891 was 84 (78 men and 6 women); of these 32 were committed for safe custody till trial or for want of security, and 52 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

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The daily average number in prison was 24·75. The daily average on the sick list was 8·86.

Lunatic Asylum.

14. Six patients (four males and two females) were admitted into the asylum during the year, and five (all females) were discharged. There were no deaths.

Education.

15. The Inspector of Schools gives the following returns:—22 aided primary schools; 1,206 scholars (607 boys and 599 girls). School fees, 560*l.*; Government contributions, 997*l.* The secondary aided schools numbered two, receiving between them Government contributions amounting to 83*l.* and school fees amounting to 196*l.* The number of scholars in these schools numbered 66; of these 44 were boys and 22 girls.

There are besides four other secondary schools receiving no Government aid, two of which are for boys and two for girls exclusively, and accommodate amongst them 60 boys and 100 girls. From one of the boys' schools (the Saltus Grammar School) two boys successfully matriculated at the London University in June last.

Government House.

16. A new Government House is now being built, and it is expected that it will be ready for occupation in June next. Under the Act providing for the erection of this house the old Government House will be pulled down when this new building is completed.

The new building contains ample accommodation. The reception rooms, three in number, measure respectively 51′ × 22′ 6″, 36′ × 22′ 6″, and 25′ × 18′.

There are 11 family bedrooms and three dressing-rooms, and 11 servants' bedrooms.

It is estimated that the building when completed will have cost over 13,700*l.*

Meteorological observations.

17. The returns from the observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above the sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·115 inches; mean temperature of the air, 69·4°; mean relative humidity, 80·9 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 9·6 miles; total amount of rainfall, 75·09 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 13 years, + 18·84. Rain fell on 159 days.

Statistical Returns.

18. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below :—

Population.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1890 - - -	7,767	8,117	15,884
1891 - - -	7,106	8,017	15,123

NOTE.—The above figures for 1890 were estimated from the census of 1881, in which were included persons only temporarily resident here and no allowance being made for emigration. The figures for 1891 are based on the census of that year.

	1890.	1891.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	32,394	33,531
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	30,270	32,029
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works	—	2,448
Customs revenue - - - - - -	27,048	27,839
Public debt - - - - - -	7,620	8,600
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	307,506	287,694
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	265,944	242,530
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	41,562	45,164
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	40,539	38,619
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	266,967	249,075
	£	£
Value of total imports - - - -	308,016	325,976
Value of imports from the United Kingdom -	92,739	85,775
Value of total exports - - - -	137,526	129,803
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom -	2,038	1,794

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
Lieut.-General Edward Newdigate Newdegate, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

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No. 71.

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[For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 39.]

Governor LYONS to the MARQUESS of RIPON.

MY LORD MARQUESS, Bermuda, March 30, 1893.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1892, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. C. LYONS,
Lieut.-General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G.,
Downing Street.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hamilton,
Bermuda, March 29, 1893.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1892:—

Finance.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to 33,955*l.* and the expenditure to 31,644*l.*, the excess of revenue over expenditure thus being 2,311*l.* Compared with 1891 the revenue shows an increase of 424*l.* and the expenditure a decrease of 385*l.*

The expenditure returns, however, in 1891, included a sum of 1,120*l.* applied in the reduction of the public debt, whereas in 1892 only 500*l.* was so applied. In the revenue and expenditure returns the amounts raised by loan (1,000*l.*) and expended during the year are not included.

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3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1892 with that of 1891:—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1891 - - - -	27,839	5,692	33,531
1892 - - - -	28,263	5,692	33,955
Increase - - -	424	—	424

Expenditure.

	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1891 - - - -	15,447	16,582	32,029
1892 - - - -	17,199	14,445	31,644
Increase - - -	1,752	—	—
Decrease - - -	—	2,137	385

In the Blue Book report for 1891 it was pointed out that the revenue raised in that year showed an increase compared with 1890 of over 1,750*l.*, whilst 1890 showed an increase compared with 1889 of nearly 2,500*l.*, and the prosperity of the years 1890 and 1891, indicated by these figures, was stated to be due nearly entirely to the following causes:—

(1.) The presence of an additional battalion of infantry in these islands during the greater part of those years;
(2.) The remunerative prices obtained during 1890 and 1891 for the agricultural products of these islands; and
(3.) The increasing popularity of these islands as a place of winter resort for the people of the United States.

Now in 1892, as above stated, the revenue showed a further slight increase, and this in spite of the fact that the additional battalion of infantry was withdrawn from the garrison in the autumn of 1891, that the prices obtained for the agricultural products of these islands in the New York market were not so remunerative as those obtained in 1890 and 1891, and that there was not an unusual amount of business done in connexion with distressed vessels. So that the only conclusion I can arrive at to

account for the prosperity in 1892 indicated by the revenue returns, is the increasing popularity of these islands amongst the inhabitants of the North American Continent taken in conjunction with the recent tariff legislation in the United States, which would seem to tend to induce the citizens of that country, when visiting such places as Bermuda, to take the opportunity of replenishing their wardrobes.

Compared with 1891 the following were the principal differences shown in the disbursements:—

		£
Colonial Surveyor's Office, an increase of	-	1,147
Agricultural "	-	185
Administration of justice "	-	202
Annuities and gratuities "	-	185
Pilotage "	-	110
Public health "	-	159
Whilst in—		
Agriculture there was a decrease of	-	171
Payment of public debt "	-	620
Miscellaneous payments "	-	785
Post Office "	-	938

The increase under the heading of "The Colonial Surveyor's Office" is due to additional expenditure on roads and works.

4. The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary - - -	2,199
Military establishments - - -	91,375

Compared with the preceding year the latter return shows a decrease of 13,090*l.*

The expenditure of the naval establishments is not returned.

Public Debt.

5. Though 500*l.* was paid off during the year, the public debt was increased from 8,600*l.* to 9,100*l.* This increase is due to the fact that 1,000*l.* worth of debentures had to be issued to provide for the completion of the new Government House.

The public debt at the end of 1892 was made up as follows:—

	£
Causeway debentures - - -	1,000
New Government House debentures -	8,000

These loans are held locally, and the average rate of interest on them is 4½ per cent.

The Causeway Debentures were issued in 1871, the amount of the original liability incurred being 19,830*l.*, all of which has been repaid with the exception of the 1,000*l.* above referred to, which will be repaid on the 1st April next.

The new Government House loan is repayable by instalments of 500*l.* annually; 11,600*l.* was borrowed on this account.

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The Legislature has lately authorized the Government to borrow 40,000*l.* in connexion with a proposed improvement of certain of the ship channels in this Colony, the amount to be raised either locally or in England by the issue of inscribed stock to be repaid at a date to be fixed upon when issuing the stock, such date not being later than 31 years from the date of issue. Provision is made for the creation of a sinking fund by the investment of 1,000*l.* annually, the first instalment to become payable in London 3½ years from the date of the issue of the stock.

Legislation.

6. The regular session of 1891 which, commenced on May 28th in that year, did not close till February 15th, 1892.

The Acts passed in 1892 in this session do not call for any special notice.

Besides this there were three sessions held in 1892. The first commenced on the 25th March, and lasted about a month, during which period two Acts were passed, namely :—

"An Act to declare the terms and conditions applicable to loans authorised to be raised out of these islands by the Government of Bermuda and to provide for the creation of Bermuda Inscribed Stock;" and,

"An Act prescribing the mode of raising a loan of 40,000*l.* for the improvement of the West End Channels."

The second session commenced on May 27th and was prorogued on September 5th, the local Parliament being convened for a third time in the year on the 12th September in order to afford the Legislature an opportunity of reconsidering a measure to continue the Board of Works Acts, which had failed in the previous session to become law.

During the second session nine Acts were passed and during the third seven in 1892.

Of the Acts passed in these two sessions only four would appear to require notice here, namely, "An Act to make provisions "for the voluntary enlistment of a Bermuda militia force and for "the maintenance, regulation, and discipline thereof;"

"An Act for making provisions for raising a volunteer infantry force in these islands;"

"An Act for the enrolment of coast volunteers;" and

"An Act to continue the Board of Works Act."

The three first mentioned of these Acts were introduced in compliance with the wishes of Her Majesty's Government. Their object is sufficiently indicated by their titles. Though no provision was inserted in any of these measures which would involve the Colony in any expense, the House of Assembly, in accordance with its nearly invariable practice, inserted in every one of them

a duration clause whereby the Acts, unless renewed, will expire on the last day of December 1900.

With regard to "The Act to continue the Board of Works Act," the failure of the Legislature to pass this measure in the second session rendered it necessary, as I have already stated, to prorogue and convene the Legislature for a third session, when this measure was passed.

The complications arising under a system of putting short duration clauses to legislative measures are well exemplified in this case. The Legislature, having already authorised the Board of Public Works to carry out a work by contract, which could not be completed before the date of the expiration of the Acts constituting the Board, then refused to renew the Acts relating to the Board with a duration sufficiently long to admit of the Board fulfilling obligations which would be imposed on it by the contract in question.

During the year 21 Resolves were passed appropriating 6,232*l.* for services not otherwise provided for by law.

Civil Establishment.

7. Colonel S. Pym, R.A., acted as the Governor's Deputy from the 1st to 8th of January, while General Newdegate was absent on a tour of inspection of Her Majesty's Forces in the West Indies.

General Newdegate left the Colony on the 23rd June, on the termination of his service, and Colonel Pym administered the Government from that date to the 17th July, when General Lyons arrived in the Colony and assumed the Government.

Mr. Claude W. McCallan was appointed on the 19th May to fill the office of Clerk in the Colonial Post Office, which was created by the Act to amend the Post Office Establishment Act passed in Session II. of 1891–2.

There were no other changes of any importance in the Civil Establishment during the year.

Imports.

8. Imports are at present valued in this Colony at the invoiced price of the goods as they lie at the port of shipment, exclusive of the cost of packages and other charges.

The total value of the imports as thus ascertained (exclusive of coin and bullion valued at 340*l.*) was 328,943*l.*, showing an increase compared with 1891 of 2,967*l.*, with 1890 of 20,937*l.* and with 1889 of 56,340*l.*

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The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1891 and 1892 is shown in the following table :—

	1891.	1892.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	85,775	88,056
British North America - -	22,031	25,604
Other British Colonies -	8,511	10,321
United States of America - -	205,906	202,566
Other countries - - -	3,753	2,396
Totals - - -	325,976	328,943

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1892 were clothing, valued at 5,805*l.*, cotton, woollen, and silk goods, valued at 26,020*l.*, jewellery and plated ware at 2,053*l.*, hardware at 2,122*l.*, leather manufactures at 3,659*l.*, oilmen's stores at 5,412*l.*, and malt liquor at 16,640*l.*

Exports.

9. The value of the exports in 1892 amounted (exclusive of specie valued at 7,727*l.*) to 107,728*l.*

Compared with 1891 this shows a decrease of 22,075*l.*, with 1890 a decrease of 29,798*l.*, with 1889 an increase of 47,339*l.*

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1891 and 1892 :—

	1891.	1892.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	1,794	2,473
British Colonies - - - -	3,457	2,516
United States of America - - -	123,259	101,164
Other countries - - - -	1,293	1,575
Total - - - -	129,803	107,728

The crop for the season 1892 was a fairly good one but the prices obtained in the New York market were on the whole not so high as in the years 1890 and 1891. It is to this cause that the falling off in the value of the exports is due.

Population and Public Health.

10. The Registrar-General estimated the civilian population of these islands at the end of 1892 at 15,290, comprising 5,803 white (2,816 males and 2,987 females), and 9,487 coloured persons (4,387 males and 5,100 females).

The birth-rate was 35·97 and the death-rate 23·3 per 1,000. Of the births amongst the white population 1·6 per cent. were illegitimate and amongst the coloured 23·4 per cent. The proportion of deaths of infants in the first year of life to registered living births, or the infantile mortality, was 15·9 per 100, compared with 16·5 in the preceding year.

The year 1892 appears to have been an unfavourable one to aged persons in this community, especially to women, 53 of the deaths being returned as those of persons 75 years of age and upwards, 38 being women. The average annual mortality of persons over 75 years of age in the preceding 10 years, 1882–91, having been 39, 25 being women.

Influenza was more or less prevalent in the spring and midsummer of 1891, but since then it can hardly be said to have prevailed in an epidemic form, so that it appears to be doubtful whether that disease is accountable for the increased death-rate amongst aged persons in 1892.

The average strength of the Imperial Forces in these islands in 1892 was 2,913 and the deaths were 15, the rate of mortality thus being 5·1 per 1,000. Of these deaths, eight were due to enteric fever, and two to gunshot wounds (self inflicted).

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the Military Forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been very good. Average strength of the garrison 1,363; number of admissions to hospital per 1,000 of strength 504·77. Number of deaths 10, six enteric fever, one pneumonic phthisis, one dilatation of heart, and two gunshot wounds; average number daily sick, 34·75; average sick time to each soldier, 9·33 [days ?]; average duration of each case of sickness, 18·49 [days ?]. Average of officers, 56; number of cases of sickness, 20; one death from strength enteric fever.

The principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the mean daily strength of the Naval Forces at Bermuda, corrected for the period that each vessel remained at the port during the year 1892, was 1,550; an increase of 75 as compared with the previous twelve months. The number of cases treated was 717, a diminution of 72 as compared with the previous year. This he accounts for by the cessation of the prevalence of influenza and the absence of any other form of epidemic disease.

Criminal Statistics.

11. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 392, an increase compared with the preceding year of 15.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 356, of whom 189 were summarily convicted, 71 acquitted, 53 discharged, and 43 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 189 persons summarily convicted, 127 were fined, 12 were imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 40 were peremptorily imprisoned, and 10 were bound over to keep the peace.

Twenty-three cases were tried in the superior courts during the year and the convictions numbered 14; of these, one was for attempt at murder, six were for other offences against the person, and seven were for offences against property.

Gaols and Prisoners.

12. The number of persons confined in the gaols in 1892 was 118 (106 men and 12 women); of these 59 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 59 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

Lunatic Asylum.

13. Five patients (two males and three females) were admitted into the asylum during the year, and two (one male and one female) were discharged. There was one death.

Education.

14. The Inspector of Schools gives the following returns:—21 aided primary schools; 1,162 scholars (587 boys and 575 girls); school fees, 472*l.*; Government contributions, 980*l.* These schools are under the direction of the Board of Education and the constant supervision of the Inspector of Schools. Fifteen of them are attended exclusively by coloured children under coloured teachers. The school fee paid by the children in all of them is 6*d.* per week. In them are taught the elementary subjects of instruction, together with needlework, Bible reading, and the elements of grammar and geography.

There are besides 25 other primary schools in the Colony receiving no Government aid.

The secondary aided schools numbered two, receiving between them Government contributions amounting to 203*l.* and school fees amounting to 112*l.* The number of scholars in these schools was 69, 50 boys and 19 girls.

There are, besides, other secondary schools receiving no Government aid.

Government House.

15. The new Government House, which has cost the Colony about 14,000*l.*, was completed in June and the old house was subsequently pulled down.

Meteorological Observations.

16. The returns from the observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above the sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·112 inches; mean temperature of the air, 68·7°; mean relative humidity, 75·2 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8·9 miles; total amount of rainfall, 66·46 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 14 years, + 8·86. Rain fell on 158 days.

General.

17. It is generally believed here that the high import duties recently imposed on the agricultural products of these islands by the United States are injurious to this Colony; but, whether this is the case or not, from what has been indicated in this report under the heading of "Finance" it would appear that the recent tariff leglisation in that country, taken as a whole, has not been injurious to the Colony; though there is practically no poverty in the Colony there is little realized wealth.

For many years past the value of its imports has always largely exceeded the value of its exports. Even in the most prosperous years, from an agricultural point of view, its imports have always been considerably more than double the value of its exports. The Colony must therefore be becoming less and less dependent on agriculture, and, though agriculture may be an important factor in its future prosperity, there are other lines along which it has and is continuing to advance.

This is beginning to be realized here and I cannot help feeling that the Legislature of this Colony moved in the right direction when it authorized an expenditure of 40,000*l.* for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour.

I may mention that the company whose ships now ply between here and New York have given the Colonial Government to understand that they intend to enter into a contract for building a steamer which will be able to perform the voyage between this Colony and New York in about 45 hours, instead of 70 as at present, as soon as the Colonial Government have concluded the contract for deepening these channels, and the result of this will certainly be to increase considerably the popularity of these islands as a winter resort, the greatest drawback at present being the time occupied in the voyage between here and New York, and the unpleasantness of the passage in comparatively small steamers during the winter months.

There are indications also which lead one to hope that when these contemplated channel improvements are completed direct communication between these islands and the mother country may be established, at any rate in the winter season, which would no doubt prove advantageous not only to the Colony but to many delicate persons to whom the English climate in winter is injurious, and to some of whom, at any rate, I believe this climate would be more beneficial than the Madeiras.

Statistical Returns.

18. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1891 - - -	7,106	8,017	15,123
1892 - - -	7,203	8,087	15,290

	1891.	1892.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	33,581	33,955
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	32,029	31,643
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works	2,448	1,219
Customs revenue - - - - -	27,839	28,262
Public debt - - - - -	8,600	9,100
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	287,694	348,576
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	242,530	325,276
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	45,164	23,300
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	38,619	34,362
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	249,075	314,214
	£	£
Value of total imports (including specie in 1892)	325,976	329,283
Value of total imports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	—	340
Value of imports from the United Kingdom (including specie in 1892) - - -	92,739	88,056
Value of total exports (including specie in 1892)	137,526	115,455
Value of total exports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	—	7,727
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom (including specie in 1892) - - -	1,794	2,473

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
Lieut.-General Thomas Casey Lyons, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 105.

BERMUDA.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 71.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
26 *June* 1894.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
67	Newfoundland	1891
68	British New Guinea	1891–92
69	Victoria	1891
70	Rodrigues	"
71	Bermuda	1892
72	Fiji	1891
73	British Honduras	"
74	Turks and Caicos Islands	1892
75	Gibraltar	"
76	Bahamas	"
77	Leeward Islands	"
78	Trinidad and Tobago	"
79	Malta	"
80	Gambia	"
81	Straits Settlements	"
82	Grenada	"
83	Barbados	"
84	St. Vincent	"
85	Hong Kong	"
86	St. Lucia	"
87	Falkland Islands	"
88	Gold Coast	"
89	Basutoland	1892–93
90	Ceylon	1892
91	Zululand	"
92	Mauritius	"
93	Labuan	"
94	British Honduras	"
95	Lagos	"
96	Sierra Leone	"
97	Fiji	"
98	Rodrigues	"
99	St. Helena	"
100	British Bechuanaland	1892–93
101	British Guiana	"
102	Newfoundland	1892
103	Jamaica	1892–93
104	Victoria	1892

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.

No. 105.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 71.)

Governor LYONS to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD MARQUESS, Bermuda, March 22, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1893, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) T. C. LYONS,
General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hamilton,
SIR, Bermuda, March 22, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1893:—

Finance.

2. The public revenue for the year was 34,893*l.*, and the expenditure 33,714*l.*; the excess of revenue over expenditure was therefore 1,179*l.* Compared with 1892 the revenue shows an increase of 938*l.*, and the expenditure an increase of 2,070*l.*

In the revenue and expenditure returns the amounts raised by loan and expended during the year are not included. The expenditure returns, however, include the sums (500*l.* in 1892 and 1,500*l.* in 1893) applied in the reduction of the public debt.

In the returns for 1893 an advance of 600*l.*, made by the Treasury to the Savings Bank, and refunded during the year, is also included.

BERMUDA. 1893.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1893 with that of 1892:—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1892 - - - -	28,263	5,692	33,955
1893 - - - -	27,821	7,072	34,893
Increase - - -	—	1,380	938
Decrease - - -	442	—	—

Expenditure.

	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1892 - - - -	17,199	14,445	31,644
1893 - - - -	17,072	16,642	33,714
Increase - - -	—	2,197	2,070
Decrease - - -	127	—	—

The receipts from the customs in 1893, compared with 1892, show an increase of 205*l.* under the heading of Malt Liquor, a decrease of 287*l.* under the heading of Rum, and a decrease of 338*l.* in the receipts from the five per cent *ad valorem* duties. The differences shown under the other headings are unimportant.

With respect to the other receipts, the increase of 1,380*l.* is principally due to the refund of the advance of 600*l.* made by the Treasury to the Savings Bank, to which allusion has already been made, an increase of 383*l.* in the postal revenue, 231*l.* in the miscellaneous receipts, and 145*l.* in the lighthouse tolls.

Compared with 1892 the following were the principal differences shown in the disbursements:—

	£
Colonial Secretary's Office, an increase of -	205
Colonial Surveyor's Office „ -	459
Payment of public debt „ -	1,000
Gaols „ -	302
Savings Bank „ -	511
Whilst in the—	
Post Office there was a decrease of -	218
Legislative „ -	168
Annuities and gratuities „ -	285

The increase under the heading of the Colonial Secretary's Office is due to the payment of arrears of salary, and under the heading of the Colonial Surveyor's Office, to additional expenditure, on roads and works.

4. The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows :—

	£
Governor's salary - - -	2,199
Military establishments - - -	89,258

Compared with 1892 the latter return shows a decrease of 2,117*l.*

The expenditure of the naval establishments is not returned.

Public Debt.

5. The Legislature in 1892 authorised the Colonial Government to issue 40,000*l.* of Inscribed Stock, the sum in question being required in connection with a proposed improvement of the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour; and stock to the amount of 10,000*l.*, repayable at par, in September 1923, and bearing interest at the rate of 4¼ per cent. per annum, was issued locally in 1893.

The average price obtained for the stock issued was 102*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* per cent.

The public debt at the end of 1893 amounted to 17,600*l.*, made up as follows :—

	£
Local Inscribed Stock - - -	10,000
New Government House debentures -	7,600

The average rate of interest on the New Government House loan is 4⅜ per cent.

Legislation.

6. The regular session of 1892 did not close until 23rd January 1893. The Acts passed in this session in 1893 do not call for special notice.

There was a special session of the Colonial Parliament which commenced on the 2nd March and closed on the 7th April. During this session one Act was passed, namely, "The West End Channel Improvement Act, 1893." By this measure the Colonial Board of Works are authorised to enter into a contract, for an amount not exceeding 38,000*l.*, in order to deepen and widen the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour so as to obtain a minimum depth of 20 feet at mean low water, and a minimum width at the bottom of these channels of 92 feet instead of 100 feet as prescribed by "The West End Channel Improvement Act, 1891," it having been found that, owing to an error in taking out the quantities from the plans of these channels, the amount of rock to be removed was in excess of that originally estimated.

The regular session commenced on the 29th May and closed on the 18th of December. During this period 22 Acts were passed; of

these seven were merely continuing Acts. Of the remainder the most noteworthy are :—

(No 6.) "An Act further to amend the Quarantine Laws."

(No. 13) "An Act regulating the superannuation of persons employed in the Civil Service of the Colony."

(No. 17) "An Act to amend the Liquor License Acts."

By Act No. 6 certain alterations in the Quarantine Laws were made in accordance with the recommendations of a commission appointed to inquire into their working in the preceding year.

Act No. 13 provides for superannuation allowances being granted to officers who may hereafter be appointed to the civil service in the Colony, on their retirement after definite terms of service, annual deductions being made from the salaries to provide a superannuation fund.

Officers now in the service have the option of accepting or declining the provisions of the Act with respect to their services after the Act had gone into operation, but no provision is made for superannuation allowances being granted to them with respect to their past services.

Act No. 17 deals with the difficult question of club licenses, the previous legislation on the subject having proved defective.

During the year 23 resolves were passed, appropriating 7,695*l.* for specific services not provided for by existing laws.

Civil Establishment.

7. Lieutenant-Colonel S. Pym, R.A., administered the Government during the absence on leave of the Governor from the 27th July to the 4th September.

There were no other changes of any importance in the Civil Establishment during the year.

Imports.

8. The value of the imports in 1893 (inclusive of specie valued at 6,267*l.*) was 327,580*l.* compared with 329,283*l.* in 1892.

Exclusive of specie the imports in 1893 show a decrease compared with 1892 of 7,630*l.*, with 1891 of 4,663*l.*, but an increase compared with 1890 of 13,307*l.*, and with 1889 of 48,710*l*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1892 and 1893 is shown in the following table :—

	1892.	1893.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	88,056	86,601
Canada - - - -	25,604	22,734
Other British Colonies -	10,321	11,736
United States of America - -	202,866	204,871
Other countries - - -	2,436	1,638
Totals - -	329,283	327,580

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1893 were clothing, valued at 3,895*l.*, materials for clothing 17,978*l.*, leather manufactures 3,022*l.*, oilmen's stores 5,387*l.*, and malt liquor 17,179*l.*

From the United States of America the principal imports were: bran 3,530*l.*, butter 13,112*l.*, indian corn 3,870*l.*, cheese 3,131*l.*, material for clothing 4,739*l.*, fertilisers 3,750*l.*, flour 14,261*l.*, canned goods 6,538*l.*, groceries 7,261*l.*, hardware 3,508*l.*, leather manufactures 5,691*l.*, lumber 4,478*l.*, oats 6,663*l.*, kerosene and naphtha oil 3,319*l.*, poultry 3,803*l.*, sheep 3,163*l.*, sugar 3,211*l.*, coals 3,186*l.*, oxen and cows 30,857*l.*, and specie 6,247*l.*

From Canada the principal imports were box material 3,021*l.*, preserved fish 2,471*l.*, potatoes 2,813*l.*, and sugar 3,051*l.*

Exports.

9. The value of the exports in 1893 (inclusive of specie valued at 6,090*l.*) was 129,069*l.*, compared with 115,455*l.* in 1892.

Exclusive of specie the exports in 1893 show an increase compared with 1892 of 15,251*l.*, a decrease compared with 1891 of 6,824*l.*, with 1890 of 14,547*l*, and an increase compared with 1889 of 58,003*l.*

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1892 and 1893:—

	1892.	1893.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	2,473	1,639
Canada - - - - -	1,918	3,470
Other British Colonies - - -	702	3,088
United States of America - - -	108,787	119,131
Other countries - - - -	1,575	1,741
Total - - - -	115,455	129,069

The principal export to the United Kingdom in 1893 was arrowroot, valued at 989*l.*

The principal exports to Canada were lily bulbs valued at 1,209*l.*, and onions 956*l.*, and to the United States lily bulbs valued at 21,050*l.*, onions at 59,870*l*, potatoes 26,622*l.*, specie 6,000*l.*, and cut flowers 1,367*l.*

The prices obtained for the crops in the season of 1893 were about the same as in the preceding year.

Population and Public Health.

10. The Registrar-General estimated the resident civilian population of these islands at the end of 1893 at 15,519, comprising 5,916 white (2,870 males and 3,046 females), and 9,603 coloured persons (4,441 males and 5,162 females).

The birth-rate was 34·6 and the death-rate 18 per 1,000. Of the births 11·3 per cent. were illegitimate. The infantile death-rate, or proportion of deaths of infants under one year of age to 100 registered births, was 18·4 per cent., a proportion which is about one per cent. higher than the decennial average.

The average strength of the Imperial Forces in Bermuda in 1893 was 2,990 and the deaths were 15, the rate of mortality thus being 5 per 1,000. Of these deaths, nine were due to enteric fever, one to alcoholism, one to aneurism, one to heart disease, one to tubercle of lung, one to abscess in sub-peritoneal tissue, and one to pneumonic phthisis.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the Military Forces in the Command reports that the general health of the troops has been very good. Average strength of the garrison, 1,390; number of admissions to hospital, 642; number of deaths, 12; average number of daily sick, 35·79; average sick-time to each soldier, 9·39 days; average duration of each case of sickness, 20·35 days. Average of officers, 58; cases of sickness, 15; deaths, none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the mean daily strength of the Naval Forces at Bermuda, for the year 1893, corrected for the period that each ship remained in port, was 1,600; an increase of 50 as compared with the previous year. The number of cases treated was 678, a diminution of 39, as compared with the preceding year the reduction being chiefly observable in diseases of the respiratory organs. Thirteen cases of enteric fever were entered, seven of them from H.M.S. "Canada": there has been no death from this disease, and those in hospital are convalescent.

Criminal Statistics.

11. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 496, an increase compared with 1892 of 104, and with 1891 of 116.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 450, of whom 270 were summarily convicted, 111 acquitted, 52 discharged for want of evidence, and 17 committed for trial in the Superior Courts. Of the 270 persons summarily convicted, 193 were fined, 7 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 50 were peremptorily imprisoned, and 18 were bound over to keep the peace.

Twenty-four cases were tried in the Superior Courts during the year, and the convictions numbered 10; of these, one was for an unnatural crime, two were for offences against property, and seven are classified under the heading "miscellaneous offences."

Gaols.

12. The number of persons confined in the gaols was 126 (119 men and 7 women); of these, 54 were committed for safe custody till trial or for want of security, and 72 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

Lunatic Asylum.

13. Eleven patients (eight males and three females) were admitted into the asylum during the year, and six (four males and two females) were discharged. There were three deaths, one from kidney disease, one from epilepsy and one from syphilitic disease. The daily average number of patients during the year was 37½.

Education.

14. The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—23 aided schools; 1,360 scholars (718 boys and 642 girls); school fees, 733*l.*; Government contributions, 1,046*l.* Sixteen of these schools are attended by coloured children exclusively, and are conducted by coloured teachers. All of them but two are elementary schools.

From the other two, pupils were entered in December last as junior candidates for the Cambridge Local Examinations, a centre for these examinations having been established here in 1891.

There are about 30 other schools in the Colony receiving no Government aid.

Meteorological Observations.

16. The returns from the Observatory situated at Prospect Hill, 151 feet above the sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·111 inches; mean temperature of the air, 69·05; mean relative humidity, 80·7 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 7·2; total amount of rainfall, 62·44 inches.

17. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1892 - - -	7,203	8,087	15,290
1893 - - -	7,311	8,208	15,519

	1892.	1893.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	33,955	34,893
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	31,643	33,713
Customs revenue - - - - -	28,262	27,820
Public debt - - - - -	9,100	17,600
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	348,576	354,083
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	325,276	312,524
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	23,300	41,519
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	34,362	48,288
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	314,214	305,755
	£	£
Value of total imports (including specie) -	329,283	327,580
Value of total imports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	340	6,267
Value of imports from the United Kingdom (including specie) - - - -	88,056	86,601
Value of total exports (including specie) -	115,455	129,069
Value of total exports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	7,727	6,090
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom (including specie) - - - -	2,473	1,639
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works	1,219	—

I have, &c.,
(Signed) ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
General Thomas Casey Lyons, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

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No. 138.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 105.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
24 *May* 1895.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
106	Gambia	1893
107	Hong Kong	"
108	St. Vincent	"
109	Gibraltar	"
110	Bahamas	"
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
112	Leeward Islands	"
113	Barbados	"
114	Malta	"
115	Zululand	"
116	British Honduras	"
117	Trinidad and Tobago	"
118	Falkland Islands	"
119	Rodrigues	"
120	Mauritius	"
121	Straits Settlements	"
122	Labuan	"
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	"
126	Ceylon	"
127	Fiji	"
128	Grenada	"
129	Sierra Leone	"
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–94
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	"
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	"
137	Zululand	1894

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

No. 138.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual], No. 105.)

Governor LYONS to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

MY LORD MARQUESS, Bermuda, March 29, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1894, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

T. C. LYONS, General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hamilton,

SIR, Bermuda, March 26, 1895.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1894 :—

Finance.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to 32,476*l.*, and the expenditure to 34,216*l.* Compared with 1893 the revenue shows a decrease of 2,417*l.*, and the expenditure an increase of 502*l.*

The expenditure returns in 1894 include a sum of 1,000*l.* temporarily advanced by the Treasury to the Savings Bank, which amount was not refunded until after the close of the year. In 1893 a sum of 600*l.* was also advanced to the Savings Bank, but having been refunded during the year is included in both the revenue and expenditure returns. If these temporary advances are excluded from consideration, the revenue for 1894 compared with 1893 shows a decrease of 1,817*l.*, and the expenditure an increase of 102*l.*

In the revenue and expenditure returns the amounts raised by loan (30,000*l.*) and expended (9,653*l.*) during the year on the improvements of the channel leading to Hamilton Harbour are not included.

BERMUDA. 1894.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1894 with that of 1893:—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1893 - - - -	27,821	7,072	34,893
1894 - - - -	25,444	7,032	32,476
Decrease - - -	2,377	40	2,417

Expenditure.

	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1893 - - - -	17,072	16,642	33,714
1894 - - - -	18,191	16,025	34,216
Increase - - -	1,119	—	502
Decrease - - -	—	617	—

Compared with the preceding year the receipts from the customs show a decrease under nearly every heading; the decrease in the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duties amounting to 1,490*l.*, whilst the duties collected on cigars, malt-liquor, rum, and other spirits show a decrease of 114*l.*, 173*l.*, 295*l.*, and 318*l.* respectively.

The decrease in the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duties is accounted for to some extent by the decrease in the value of breadstuffs and other provisions. The partial failure of the potato and onion crop last season caused some distress amongst the agricultural classes in the community, and this no doubt adversely affected the receipts from customs under every heading.

Compared with 1893 the following were the principal differences shown in the disbursements:—

	£
Annuities and gratuities an increase of -	475
Interest „ -	458
Judicial „ -	369
Savings Bank „ -	482
Whilst in the—	
Colonial Surveyor's Office there was a decrease of - - - -	336
Payment of Public Debt there was a decrease of - - - - -	1,000

The increase under the heading of annuities and gratuities is due to a gratuity of 500*l.* granted to Mr. Ward, late postmaster at St. George, and under the heading of interest, to the loan raised to improve the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour.

4. The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's Salary - - - -	2,199
Military Establishments - - -	93,888

Compared with 1893, the latter return shows an increase of 4,630*l.*

Public Debt.

5. Of the 40,000*l.* of Inscribed Stock which the Legislature authorized the Colonial Government in 1892 to issue on account of the improvement of the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour, 10,000*l.* was issued locally in 1893 and 30,000*l.* in 1894. This Stock, bearing interest at the rate of 4¼ per cent., is repayable in September 1923. The average price obtained for the Stock was 102*l.* 12*s.* 10*d.* per cent.

The Public Debt at the end of 1894 amounted to 47,100*l.*, made up as follows:—

	£
Local Inscribed Stock - - - -	40,000
New Government House Debentures - -	7,100

The average rate of interest on the new Government House Loan is 4⅜ per cent.

Public Works.

6. A new gaol at Hamilton was commenced in 1891 and finished in 1894.

There are 36 cells in the new building, the dimensions of each being 8′ 6″ × 12′ × 11′ 6″, in addition to five strong-rooms and ample store accommodation. The old gaol was adapted so as to provide four cells for females, a sick ward, chapel and warder's accommodation. The cost of these works, in addition to a cottage for the gaoler, amounting to 5,700*l.*, was defrayed out of a portion of the proceeds of an investment of 6,000*l.* made in 1865 for the purpose of forming a fund to provide a gaol, and a lighthouse, which was erected in 1876 at St. David's Island.

In 1893 the Board of Public Works entered into a contract with Messrs. S. Pearson and Son, of Victoria Street, Westminster, to deepen and widen, at a cost of about 38,000*l.* the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour so as to obtain a minimum depth of 20 feet at mean low water and a minimum width of 92 feet at the bottom of the channels.

BERMUDA. 1894.

This work was commenced in July 1894 and is satisfactorily progressing.

Legislation.

7. The Legislature was in session from the 28th of May to the 26th of November, and the work of the session was to a large extent devoted to the continuing of Acts about to expire which have been on the Statute Book for years and about the necessity for which there has never been any question.

The legislation of the Colony is remarkable for the systematic limitation of laws to brief periods of duration. During the ten years 1874–93, the Attorney-General of the Colony states 249 Acts have been passed of which fewer than one-third were Acts without duration clauses. The whole number of Acts on the Statute Book, exclusive of those passed last session, was 748.

A committee of the House of Assembly is appointed every year to report what Acts are about to expire and at the beginning of last session the committee reported a list of 117; the actual number, however, was 118.

The reason which is urged for retaining this system is that it gives the House of Assembly a stronger control over the other branches of the Legislature and enables that House to force changes and amendments on them which would not be accepted if they could be rejected without imperiling the existence of the Act.

His Excellency the Governor at the beginning of last Session addressed the Assembly in the following term:

"In opening this session of the Legislature I have to call your attention to some of the most important Acts on your Statute Book. Under a system peculiar to this Colony a great number of Acts are on the eve of expiring and no doubt a considerable part of the present session will be taken up in continuing laws which are now limited to expire at the end of next year.

"Among these temporary laws is the whole body of your Post Office Acts regulating the internal and external postal relations of these islands, relations which bring Bermuda into touch with the most distant countries on the globe. Whatever reasons may be urged for giving a brief duration at first to minor Acts of a tentative or experimental nature, I cannot but think that it is not only an inconvenient but a dangerous practice for the whole of your Post Office system, involving important Imperial and commercial interests, as well as treaty obligations with foreign Governments and other colonies, to be made dependent on the political accidents which, by giving rise to a conflict of opinion between the various branches of the Legislature, may periodically bring the whole system into jeopardy."

As the Attorney-General has pointed out, the instability and precariousness of such a system of legislation are not the least objections to it, but the waste of time and money in habitually bringing so large a part of our laws under reconsideration, and the

facilities thus afforded for forcing hasty and inconsiderate amendments and changes on the Legislative Council and the Governor, are far more serious.

The most noteworthy of the legislative measures passed during the session was "The Public Health Act, 1894." By this Act the General Board of Health was reconstituted and provision made for the appointment of a Medical Officer of Health for the Colony. This measure it is hoped will conduce to the improvement of the sanitary condition of the Colony, which has become of greater importance in consequence of the increasing number of visitors to these islands from the United States and Canada during the winter months and the consequent profit resulting therefrom to our small community.

During the year, 21 Resolves were passed, appropriating 7,329*l.* for specific services not provided for by existing laws.

Councils and Assembly.

8. Mr. William Henry Gosling, the senior unofficial member of the Executive and Legislative Councils in the Colony, died in November last. His loss was much felt not only by the Colonial Government but by the community at large.

Civil Establishment.

9. Mr. Robert Ward having retired on account of ill-health from the office of Postmaster at St. George's, Mr. V. O. Brown, clerk in that office, was promoted to the vacant office.

Imports (exclusive of specie.)

10. The value of the imports, exclusive of specie, in 1894 was 283,952*l.* Compared with 1893 this shows a decrease of 37,361*l.* with 1892 of 44,991*l.*, with 1891 of 42,024*l.*, but with 1890 an increase of 11,349*l.*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1893 and 1894 is shown in the following table:—

	1893.	1894.
	£	£
United Kingdom	86,601	85,903
Canada	22,734	21,162
Other British Colonies	11,716	8,895
United States of America	198,624	166,705
Other Countries	1,638	1,287
Total	321,313	283,952

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1894 were clothing, valued at 3,790*l.*, materials for clothing 16,777*l.*, leather manufactures 3,113*l.*, oilmen's stores 4,807*l.*, woollen goods 9,276*l.*, and malt liquor 18,907*l.*

The principal imports from the United States of America were bran, valued at 3,607*l.*, butter 10,747*l.*, corn 3,779*l.*, flour 12,823*l.*, canned goods 5,769*l.*, groceries 7,106*l.*, lumber 4,666*l.*, oats 6,012*l.*, kerosene oil 3,403*l.*, poultry 3,531*l.*, smoked and pickled meat 12,715*l.*, sugar 3,586*l.*, oxen and cows 24,066*l.*

Exports (exclusive of specie).

11. The value of the exports, exclusive of specie, in 1894 was 94,334*l.* Compared with 1893 this shows a decrease of 28,645*l.*, with 1892 of 13,394*l.*, with 1891 of 35,469*l.*, and with 1890 of 43,192*l.*

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1893 and 1894:—

	1893.	1894.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - - -	1,639	2,003
Canada - - - - -	3,460	2,634
Other British Colonies - - -	3,008	1,248
United States of America - - -	113,131	85,163
Other countries - - - -	1,741	3,286
Total - - - -	122,979	94,334

The principal export to the United Kingdom in 1894 was arrowroot, valued at 974*l.*, and to Canada lily bulbs, valued at 1,239*l.*

The principal exports to the United States were onions valued at 45,414*l.*, a decrease compared with the preceding year of 14,456*l.*; potatoes valued at 18,717*l.*, a decrease of 7,905*l.*; and lily bulbs 17,122*l.*, a decrease of 3,928*l.*

The decrease in the value of the onions and potatoes exported during 1894 is due not to a fall in price in the New York markets but to short crops resulting from disease. In the case of the lily bulbs, however, the decrease in value is due principally to a fall in prices.

Imports and Exports of Specie.

12. The value of the specie imported in 1894, including that imported by the Imperial Treasury Chest Officer here, which is not shown in the Blue Book returns, was 26,895*l.* The value of the specie imported in 1893 was 6,267*l.*

The large importation of specie, mostly in gold, in 1894, is due to the local loan issued in 1893–1894 for channel improvements, which caused the temporary withdrawal from general circulation of about 30,000*l.*

The value of the specie exported in 1894, according to the Blue Book returns, is 2,095*l.*, compared with an export in 1893 valued at 6,090*l.*

The value of the imports and exports of specie given above does not, of course, include the amounts brought in or carried away by transient visitors on their persons, and as the floating is large compared with the resident population this has an important bearing on the matter.

With regard to the export of specie, for instance, nearly the whole amount shown in the returns under this heading in 1893 and 1894 consisted, so I am informed by the agents of the mail steamers plying between these islands and New York, of American money brought here in the pockets of American tourists and consequently not shown in the import returns, but, being exported in bulk by merchants and others in the Colony into whose hands it came, is shown in the export returns.

For this reason it is impossible to arrive at any reliable conclusion by merely deducting the value of the exports of specie, as given in the returns, from the imports.

The men of the North American and West Indian Squadron, so I am informed by the Imperial Treasury Chest Officer here, take away more money from these islands than they bring in, but no reliable estimate of the loss from this cause can be given.

Population and Public Health.

13. The Registrar-General estimated the resident civilian population of these islands at the end of 1894 at 15,643, comprising 5,990 White (2,918 males and 3,072 females), and 9,653 coloured persons (4,463 males and 5,190 females).

The birth-rate was 32·8 and the death-rate 23·2 per 1,000. Of the births 18·4 per cent. were illegitimate. The death-rate according to colour was 16·6 per 1,000 amongst the resident White and 24·8 per 1,000 amongst the coloured population.

The infantile death-rate, or proportion of deaths of infants under one year of age to registered living births, was 19·5 per cent.

BERMUDA. 1894.

The average strength of the Imperial Forces in Bermuda in 1894 was 2,810 and the deaths were 14, the rate of mortality thus being about 5 per 1,000. Of these deaths, five were due to enteric fever, one to scarlet fever, one to rheumatic fever, one to dysentery, three to diseases of the brain, one to acute yellow atrophy of liver, one to Bright's disease, and one to asphyxia (from drowning).

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the Military Forces in the Command reports that the general health of the troops has been very good. Average strength of the garrison, 1,410; number of admissions to hospital, 678; number of deaths, 11; average number of daily sick, 35·98; average sick-time to each soldier, 9·31 days; average duration of each case of sickness, 19·37 days. Average strength of officers, 61; cases of sickness, 18; deaths, none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the mean daily strength of the Naval Forces at Bermuda, for the year 1894, corrected for the period that each ship remained in port, was 1,400, a decrease of 200 as compared with the previous year.

The number of cases treated was 381, a diminution of 297, as compared with 1893, the reduction being chiefly observable in venereal diseases, diarrhœa, and accidents.

Three cases of enteric fever were entered. There has been no death from this disease, and those in hospital are convalescent.

Criminal Statistics.

14. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 453, a decrease compared with 1893 of 33, but an increase compared with 1892 of 71.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 418, of whom 261 were summarily convicted, 47 discharged for want of evidence, 89 acquitted, and 21 committed for trial in the Superior Courts.

Of the 261 persons summarily convicted, 190 were fined, 16 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 49 were peremptorily imprisoned, and six bound over to keep the peace.

Twenty-five cases were tried in the Superior Courts during the year, and the convictions numbered 15. Of these, one was for concealment of birth, five for offences against the person, one for prædial larceny, two for other offences against property, and six were classified under the heading of "miscellaneous offences."

Gaols.

15. The number of persons confined in the gaols was 139 (119 males and 20 females); of these, 51 were committed for safe custody till trial or for want of security, and 88 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

Lunatic Asylum.

16. Six patients (two male and four female) were admitted into the asylum during the year, and five (two males and three females) were discharged. There were five deaths, one from kidney disease, one from hernia, one from cancer, one from diarrhœa, and one from general paralysis.

The daily average number of patients during 1894 was 37.

Education.

17. The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—23 aided primary schools; 1,259 scholars (657 boys and 602 girls); school fees, 588*l.*; Government contributions, 1,007*l.*

One aided secondary school; 44 scholars (26 boys and 18 girls); school fees 132*l.*; Government contributions 54*l.*; voluntary contributions, 40*l.*

There are about 40 primary and 3 secondary private schools in the Colony receiving no Government aid.

Meteorological Observations.

18. The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea-level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·143 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70·1°; mean relative humidity, 83·6 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8·5 miles; total amount of rainfall, 59·39 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 16 years, 6·83 inches less.

General.

19. 1894 was not a very prosperous year in Bermuda, owing to the partial failure caused by disease of the potato aud onion crops.

The rebuilding of Trinity Church, the largest church in the Colony, which was destroyed by fire in 1884, was so far advanced in 1894 as to admit of the nave being opened for Divine Service before Christmas Day. There are upwards of 600 sittings in the completed portion of the building, which has cost over 20,000*l.*

Statistics.

20. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1893 - - -	7,311	8,208	15,519
1894 - -	7,381	8,262	15,643

	1893.	1894.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	34,893	32,475
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	33,713	34,216
Customs revenue - - - - - -	27,820	25,444
Public debt - - - - -	17,600	47,100
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	354,043	293,808
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	312,524	272,503
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	41,519	21,305
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	48,288	39,409
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	305,755	254,399
	£	£
Value of total imports (including specie) -	327,580	310,847
Value of total imports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	6,267	26,895
Value of imports from the United Kingdom (including specie) - - - - -	86,601	90,703
Value of total exports (including specie) -	129,069	98,377
Value of total exports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	6,090	4,043
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom (including specie) - - - -	1,639	2,003
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works	—	9,653

I have, &c.

ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
General Thomas Casey Lyons, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 166.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894, *see* No. 138 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1896.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–4
134	Jamaica	"
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	"
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	"
139	Bahamas	"
140	Barbados	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
142	Malta	"
143	Gambia	"
144	Windward Islands	"
145	Trinidad and Tobago	"
146	Gibraltar	"
147	Falkland Islands	"
148	Hong Kong	"
149	Straits Settlements	"
150	Lagos	"
151	Seychelles	"
152	Basutoland	"
153	Fiji	1894–5
154	St. Helena	1894
155	Ceylon	"
156	Mauritius	"
157	Labuan	"
158	Gold Coast	"
159	British Guiana	"
160	Sierra Leone	"
161	Jamaica	"
162	British Honduras	1894–5
163	British Bechuanaland	1894
164	Newfoundland	1894–5
165	Gambia	1894
		1895

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.

No. 166.

BERMUDA.

[For Report for 1894, *see* No. 138.]

Governor LYONS to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

SIR, Bermuda, March 28, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1895, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

T. C. LYONS, General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

SIR, Colonial Secretary's Office, Bermuda, March 28, 1896.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1895 :—

Finance.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to 37,830*l.*, and the expenditure to 33,006*l.* Compared with 1894 the revenue shows an increase of 5,354*l.*, and the expenditure a decrease of 1,210*l.*

The expenditure returns in 1894, however, included a sum of 1,000*l.*, temporarily advanced by the Treasury to the Savings Bank. This amount was refunded in 1895 and is included in the revenue returns for that year.

The revenue returns for 1895 are also swelled by the payment into the Treasury of a sum of 1,050*l.*, being the premiums received on the loan of 40,000*l.*, raised in 1893–94, and by payment of sums amounting to 2,170*l.*, by the Trustees of the Savings Bank, being the excess of the assets of the Savings Bank over its liabilities consequent on the high price of consols in which the funds of its Bank are invested.

Excluding these amounts the revenue shows an increase compared with 1894 of 1,134*l.*, and the expenditure a decrease of 210*l.*

The expenditure in 1895 out of the loan raised in 1893–94 in connection with the improvement of the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour amounted to 8,464*l.*

BERMUDA. 1895.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1895 with that of 1894:—

Revenue.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1894 - - - -	25,444	7,032	32,476
1895 - - - -	27,451	10,379	37,830
Increase - - -	2,007	3,347	5,354

Expenditure.

	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1894 - - - -	18,191	16,025	34,216
1895 - - - -	17,055	15,951	33,006
Decrease - - -	1,136	74	1,210

The receipts from the customs in 1895, compared with the preceding year show an increase under every important heading; the increase in the 5 per cent. *ad valorem* duties amounted to 587*l.*, in the duties on cigars and cigarettes 190*l.*, on malt liquors 769*l.*, on rum 269*l.*, and on other spirits 187*l.*

Compared with 1894 the following were the principal differences shown in the disbursements:—

	£
Interest, an increase of - - -	1,011
Post Office " - - -	824
Public Health " - - -	428
Whilst in the—	
Colonial Surveyor's Office there was a decrease of - - - -	271
Annuities and gratuities a decrease of -	575
Public debt " " - -	500
Refunds of duty " " - -	200
Gaols " " - -	340
Miscellaneous payments " " - -	522
Pilotage " " - -	235
Savings Bank " " - -	988

The increase under the heading of interest is due to the payment of a whole year's interest on the 40,000*l.* raised in 1893–94 for the purpose of improving the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour, under the heading of Post Office to the

payment of transit charges to the United States Post Office on mails conveyed through that country during the preceding three years, and under the heading of Public Health to the appointment of the Medical Officer of Health for these islands and for supplies required at the quarantine station.

4. The Imperial expenditure returns are as follow :—

	£
Governor's salary - - - -	2,199
Military establishments - - -	102,230

Compared with 1894, the latter return shows an increase of 8,342*l.*

The expenditure on the Naval establishments is not returned.

Public Debt.

5. The Public debt at the end of 1895 amounted to 47,100*l.*, made up as follows :—

	£
Local Inscribed Stock - - - -	40,000
New Government House Debentures -	7,100

The rate of interest on the local inscribed stock is 4½ per cent. and the average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is 4⅝ per cent. Both of these loans were issued locally.

Public Works.

6. The contract entered into with Messrs. S. Pearson & Son to deepen and widen the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour was nearly completed at the end of 1895.

Legislation.

7. The regular session of 1895, which commenced on 29th May, did not close till 27th January 1896.

Of the 27 Acts passed during the year, Act No. 22, entitled "An Act to incorporate the Bermuda Produce Exchange, "Limited," is the only one which calls for special notice. The object of this measure is to give a legal status with limited liability to an association of merchants and planters who have combined to form a company to control and handle the vegetable crops sent to the New York market from these islands, the Bermuda planters being of opinion that the unremunerative prices which they of late years have obtained for their staple products in that market are due in great part to their competition with each other there.

During the year 14 resolves were passed appropriating 6,209*l.* for services not otherwise provided for by law.

Councils and Assembly.

8. Mr. Joseph H. Harvey, a member of the Legislative Council of these islands, died in August, and Mr. S. S. Ingham, the Speaker of the House of Assembly, was selected to fill the vacant seat. Mr. T. J. Wadson was elected Speaker of the Assembly in Mr. Ingham's room.

Civil Establishment.

9. Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. S. Moore, R.E., administered the government during the absence on leave of the Governor, from 1st August to 6th October.

Mr. E. Harvey, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Medical Superintendent of the lunatic asylum, was appointed Medical Officer of Health at a salary of 400*l.* per annum on the 1st January.

Mr. A. F. Smith, who has served as clerk in the Colonial Secretary's office since 1886, was appointed in September, Assistant Colonial Secretary.

There were no other changes of any importance in the civil establishment during the year.

Imports (exclusive of specie).

10. The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at 40*l.*) in 1895 was 305,474*l.*

Compared with 1894 this shows an increase of 21,522*l.*, but with 1893 a decrease of 15,839*l.*, and with 1892 a decrease of 23,469*l.*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1894 and 1893 is shown in the following table :—

—	1894.	1895.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	85,903	88,383
Canada - - - -	21,162	19,639
Other British Colonies - -	8,895	8,403
United States of America - -	166,705	187,385
Other Countries - - -	1,287	1,664
Total - -	283,952	305,474

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1895 were clothing, valued at 5,348*l.*; cotton goods, 4,813*l.*; woollen goods, 7,058*l.*; materials for clothing, 17,008*l.*; oilman's stores, 5,410*l.*; and malt liquor, 16,041*l.*

The principal imports from the United States of America were bran, valued at 4,088*l.*; butter, 10,527*l.*; corn, 3,842*l.*; fertilizers, 3,262*l.*; flour, 13,705*l.*: canned fruit and meat, 4,856*l.*; furniture, 3,28*l.*; groceries, 5,41*l.*; hardware, 3,202*l.*; leather manufactures, 5,074*l.*; lumber, 3,935*l.*; kerosene oil, 3,566*l.*; oats, 6,360*l.*; smoked and pickled meat, 13,076*l.*; sheep, 2,839*l.*; oxen and cows, 30,514*l.*

Exports (exclusive of specie).

11. The value of the exports (exclusive of specie, valued at 6,895*l.*) in 1895 was 109,018*l.*

Compared with 1894 this shows an increase of 14,684*l.* but with 1893 a decrease of 13,961*l.*

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1894 and 1895:—

	1894.	1895.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	2,003	2,129
Canada - - - -	2,634	1,204
Other British Colonies - -	1,248	1,351
United States of America - -	85,163	103,577
Other countries - - -	3,286	757
Total - - -	94,334	109,018

The principal export to the United Kingdom in 1895 was hides valued at 1,200*l.*

The principal exports to the United States were onions, valued at 44,424*l.*, a decrease compared with the preceding year of 990*l.*, and compared with 1893 a decrease of 15,446*l.*, lily bulbs, valued at 28,370*l.*, an increase compared with the preceding year of 11,248*l.*, and potatoes, 26,495*l.*, an increase of 7,778*l.*

The decrease in value of the onions exported during 1895 was due to a fall in price in the New York market, the crop having been much larger than that of the preceding year. In the case of potatoes the increase may be accounted for by the larger crop raised, and in the case of lily bulbs the increase was due partly to better prices and partly to larger crops.

Population and Public Health.

12. The Registrar-General estimated the resident civilian population of these islands at the end of 1895 at 15,794, comprising 6,037 white (2,957 males and 3,080 females) and 9,757 coloured persons (4,518 males and 5,239 females.)

The birth rate was 32·6 and the death rate 21·7 per 1,000. Of the births, 13·2 per cent were illegitimate.

It is satisfactory to be able to note the decrease of late years in the per-centage of illegitimate to total births amongst the coloured population in these islands. In the ten years 1872–81 the per-centage was 29·2, it fell to 24·8 in the ten years 1882–91, and to 22·1 in the four years 1892–95.

The death rate according to colour in 1895 was 20·8 per 1,000 amongst the resident white, and 21·85 per 1,000 amongst the coloured, population. The infantile death rate or proportion of deaths of infants under one year of age to registered living births was 14·2 per cent.

The average strength of the Imperial Forces in Bermuda in 1895 was 2,747 and the deaths 29, the rate of mortality thus being 10·5 per 1,000. Of these deaths 20 were due to enteric fever, 1 to abscess of brain, 1 to apoplexy, 1 to myelitis, 1 to valvular disease of the heart, 1 to pernicious anæmia, 1 to aneurysm, 2 to pneumonia, and 1 to a gunshot wound (self-inflicted).

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the Military Forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. Average strength of the garrison 1,447; number of admissions to hospital 984; ratio of admissions per 1,000 of strength 680·03; average number of daily sick 56·56; average sick time to each soldier, 14·27 days; average duration of each case of sickness 20·98 days. Average strength of officers 59; cases of sickness 21; deaths none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the mean daily strength of the Naval Forces at Bermuda for the year 1895 corrected for the period that each ship remained in port was 1,300, a decrease of 100 as compared with the previous year.

The number of cases treated in the Royal Naval Hospital was 262, a diminution of 119 as compared with the preceding year, the reduction being chiefly observable in simple continued fevers and influenza, the latter being entirely absent. Two cases of enteric fever were entered; there were no deaths.

Criminal Statistics.

13. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 450, a decrease compared with 1894 of 3 and with 1893 of 46.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 391, of whom 225 were summarily convicted, 57 discharged for want of evidence, 86 acquitted and 23 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 225 persons summarily convicted, 155 were fined, 11 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 39 were peremptorily imprisoned and 20 bound over to keep the peace.

Nineteen cases were tried in the superior courts during the year and the convictions numbered 11. Of these five were for offences against the person, five for offences against property, and one was classified under the heading of "Miscellaneous offences."

Gaols.

14. The number of persons confined in the gaols was 109 (97 males and 12 females). Of these 50 were committed for safe custody till trial or for want of security and 59 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

Lunatic Asylum.

15. Four patients (2 males and 2 females) were admitted into the Asylum in 1895, one was discharged and one died.

The daily average number of patients was 37.

Education.

16. The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:— 20 aided primary schools; 1,122 scholars (582 and 540 girls); school fees 465*l.*; Government contributions 915*l.*

Two aided secondary schools with 88 scholars (52 boys and 36 girls), school fees 228*l.*, Government contributions 116*l.*

In addition to two garrison schools and one dockyard school, there are about 30 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants.

Meteorological Observations.

17. The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 115 feet above sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·115 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70·5 degrees; mean relative humidity, 84·8 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8·7 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 63·10 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 17 years, 2·92 inches less; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 223.

Board of Trade Statistics.

18. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1894 - - -	7,381	8,262	15,643
1895 - - -	7,475	8,319	15,794

	1894.	1895.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	32,475	37,829
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	34,216	33,005
Customs revenue - - - - -	25,444	27,451
Public debt - - - -	47,100	47,100
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	293,808	361,683
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	272,503	286,695
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	21,305	74,988
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	39,409	34,140
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	254,399	327,543
	£	£
Value of total imports (including specie) -	310,847	305,514
Value of total imports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	26,895	40
Value of imports from the United Kingdom (including specie) - - - -	90,708	88,383
Value of total exports (including specie) -	98,377	115,913
Value of total exports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	4,043	6,895
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom (including specie) - - - -	2,003	2,129
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works	9,653	8,464

I have, &c.

ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
General Thomas Casey Lyons, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 192.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 166.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty,
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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
156	Mauritius	1894
157	Labuan	"
158	Gold Coast	"
159	British Guiana	1894–5
160	Sierra Leone	1894
161	Jamaica	1894–95
162	British Honduras	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	1894–95
164	Newfoundland	1894
165	Gambia	1895
166	Bermuda	"
167	Leeward Islands	1894
168	British New Guinea	1894–95
169	Zululand	1895
170	Sierra Leone	"
171	Gibraltar	"
172	Malta	"
173	Barbados	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
175	Falkland Islands	"
176	St. Helena	"
177	Bahamas	"
178	Hong Kong	"
179	Windward Islands	"
180	Labuan	"
181	Trinidad and Tobago	"
182	Seychelles	"
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras	1895
185	Lagos	"
186	Basutoland	1895–96
187	Ceylon	1895
188	British Guiana	1895–96
189	Gold Coast	1895
190	Jamaica	1895–96
191	Canada	1895

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.

No. 192.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 166.)

Governor BARKER to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

SIR, Bermuda, March 23, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1896, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

G. DIGBY BARKER, Lieut.-Gen.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Bermuda,
SIR, March 16, 1897.

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1896:—

FINANCE.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to 34,256*l.*, and the expenditure to 34,717*l.* Compared with 1895, the revenue shows a decrease of 3,573*l.* and the expenditure an increase of 1,712*l.*

The revenue returns for 1895 included a sum of 1,000*l.* refunded to the Treasury by the local savings bank on account of a temporary advance made during the preceding year, and a sum of 1,050*l.*, being the premium received on the loan of 40,000*l.* issued in 1893–94.

Owing to the enhanced value of consols, in which the funds of the savings banks are invested, the excess of the assets of the bank over its liabilities amounted in 1895 to 2,170*l.*, and in 1896 to 1,000*l.*, and these amounts were, in accordance with the provisions of a local Act, paid into the Treasury.

Excluding these abnormal receipts, the revenue in 1896 shows a decrease, compared with 1895, of 353*l.*

o 97320. Wt. 20408.

BERMUDA. 1896.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1896 with that of 1895:—

REVENUE.

	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1895 - - - -	27,451	10,379	37,830
1896 - - - -	26,717	7,539	34,256
Decrease - - -	734	2,840	3,574

EXPENDITURE.

	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1895 - - - -	17,055	15,951	33,006
1896 - - - -	19,007	15,710	34,717
Increase - - -	1,952	—	1,711
Decrease - - -	—	241	—

Compared with 1895, the following were the principal differences shown in the disbursements:—

	£
Public Debt, an increase of - - -	1,503
Library, „ - - -	430

Whilst in the—

Post Office there was a decrease of - -	552
Lunatic Asylum „ - -	404

The increase under the heading of "Library" is due to the importation of a large quantity of books, and under the heading of "Public Debt" to the appropriation of 1,000*l.* in connexion with the sinking fund created for paying off the debt of 40,000*l.* incurred in 1893–94 for the improvement of the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour, and to the payment of 500*l.* to reduce the debt due on the New Government House account.

The expenditure in 1896 out of the loan raised in 1893–94 in connexion with the improvement of the channels amounted to 21,141*l.*

4. The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary - - -	2,199
Military establishments - - -	105,432

Compared with 1895, the latter return shows an increase of 3,202*l.*

The expenditure on the naval establishments is not returned.

PUBLIC DEBT.

5. The Public Debt at the end of 1896 amounted to 46,600*l.*, made up as follows:—

	£
Local Inscribed Stock - - -	40,000
New Government House Debentures -	6,600

The rate of interest on the local inscribed stock is 4½ per cent., and the average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is 4⅜ per cent. Both of these loans were issued locally.

The local inscribed stock, which was issued in 1893–4, is redeemable at par in 1923, and the sum of 1,000*l.*, being the first annual instalment to be paid on account of the sinking fund created in connexion therewith, was remitted last year to London for investment.

PUBLIC WORKS.

6. The contract entered into in 1893 between the Board of Public Works and Messrs. S. Pearson & Son, of Victoria Street, Westminster, to deepen and widen, at a cost of about 38,000*l.*, the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour so as to obtain a minimum depth of 20 feet at mean low water and a minimum width of 92 feet at the bottom of the channels, was successfully completed in March, 1896.

LEGISLATION.

The regular session of 1895 did not close until the 27th January 1896. The Acts passed in this session in 1896 do not call for special notice.

The regular session of 1896 commenced on the 29th May and was not closed until after the commencement of 1897.

Of the 28 Acts passed in this session during 1896, only one is of sufficient importance to require notice here, viz., "The Public Garden Act, 1896."

This measure provides for the purchase and improvement of a tract of land of not less than ten acres, the purchase of plant and erection of buildings suitable for horticultural purposes, and for procuring the services of a superintendent at a salary not exceeding 300*l.* per annum.

The agricultural problem that this Colony has to face, with its small area, a little over 10,000 acres with about 2,500 under cultivation, small holdings, and high price of land and labour, is not an easy one to solve, and whether the establishment of an experimental garden on the lines put forward by the Legislature will justify the contemplated expenditure and thus tend to satisfactorily solve the problem is a question which it would be hard to answer. Under the heading of "Exports" in this report, allusion is made to two companies which were formed with the object of aiding the agricultural interests of this community. These companies, however, suffered such financial losses that they were unable to continue their operations and this has naturally rendered the Legislature more anxious with regard to the matter.

The following extract from a letter which I have received from one of the leading planters in the Colony will furnish some idea of the return persons directly dependent for a living on the products of the soil expect from the land here :—

"I probably farm as much land as any other person in the Colony, and that amounts to only about 25 acres in all. You will see that the average size of holdings is very small, five acres would be considered a fair-size farm here."

"I consider an industrious and intelligent man should clear about 40*l.* per annum from an acre of average land, building on fair crop and prices. I personally in good years have made about 100*l.* from an acre of ground, principally from lilies."

During the year 22 resolves were passed appropriating 7,168*l.* for services not otherwise provided for by law.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

General Thomas Casey Lyons left Bermuda on the 28th May and Lieut.-Col. Moore administered the Government from that date to the 6th July, when Lieut.-Gen. G. Digby Barker arrived in the Colony and assumed the Government.

Mr. Allan F. Smith, Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed Colonial Postmaster in the room of Mr. A. G. Butterfield resigned, Mr. F. Goodwin Gosling, Assistant Clerk of the Assembly, being appointed clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office, and Mr. E. H. Gosling appointed Assistant Clerk of the Assembly.

Mr. E. M. C. Smith, M.R.C.S, L.R.C.P., was appointed Health Officer for the Eastern District, in the room of Surgeon-Captain Gubbin resigned.

IMPORTS (exclusive of specie).

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at 75*l.*) in 1896 was 304,895*l.*

Compared with 1895, this shows a decrease of 579*l.*, but with 1894 an increase of 20,943*l.*, and with 1893 a decrease of 16,418*l.*

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1895 and 1896 is shown in the following table:—

——	1895.	1896.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	88,383	90,025
Canada - - - -	19,639	20,886
Other British Colonies - -	8,403	7,756
United States of America -	187,385	184,391
Other Countries - - -	1,664	1,837
Total - - -	305,474	304,895

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1896 were clothing, valued at 5,016*l.*; cotton goods, 12,249*l.*; woollen goods, 13,590*l.*; oilman's stores, 5,153*l.*; jewellery and plated ware, 3,413*l.*; sugar 4,205*l.*; and malt liquor 18,090*l.*

The principal imports from the United States of America were butter, valued at 9,637*l.*; flour, 16,312*l.*; groceries, 5,837*l.* leather manufactures, 5,424*l.*; smoked and pickled meat, 11,884*l.* oxen and cows, 28,802*l.*

EXPORTS (exclusive of specie).

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie, valued at 7,550*l.*) in 1896 was 101,063*l.*

Compared with 1895, this shows a decrease of 7,955*l.*, but with 1894 an increase of 6,729*l.*

The following table shows the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1895 and 1896:—

——	1895.	1896.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	2,129	2,833
Canada - - - -	1,204	3,210
Other British Colonies - -	1,351	2,847
United States of America -	103,577	91,407
Other Countries - - -	757	746
Total - - -	109,018	101,063

The principal export to the United Kingdom in 1896 was hides, valued at 1,723*l.*

The principal exports to the United States were onions, valued at 54,843*l.*, an increase compared with the preceding year of 10,419*l.*; lily bulbs, valued at 12,431*l.*, a decrease compared with the preceding year of 15,939*l.*; and potatoes, £3,817*l.*, a decrease of 7,678*l.*

It is claimed that instead of an increase being shown, as compared with 1895, in the value of the onion crop, of over 10,000*l.* there would have been a decrease of at least 20,000*l.*, if it had not been for the Bermuda Produce Exchange.

The Exchange was a company which was incorporated with limited liability just before the commencement of the last crop season, under the provisions of a local Act, to control and handle the crops, other than lily bulbs, shipped to New York, and thus avoid competition between our local merchants and planters, which it was held in part accounted for the unremunerative prices obtained of late years in that market.

The quantity of bulbs shipped in 1896 fell very little short of that shipped in 1895, but the decrease in the value, as gathered from official returns, amounted to over 57 per cent.

I am informed by a gentleman who is largely interested in this business that this great fall in the value of the bulbs, as shown by the returns, is certainly partly due to the fact that a syndicate which was formed in 1895 to control this particular crop did not continue its operations in 1896, and, possibly, he also considers, to incorrect valuation arising from the difficulty, in the absence of a syndicate, of the majority of shippers estimating with any degree of accuracy the price at which their consignments will be disposed of. He does not consider that this decrease in value was caused by a disease which prevailed to some extent amongst the plants.

Whether, however, the operation of the Produce Exchange and the Lily Bulb Syndicate did or did not benefit this community as as whole, the fact remains that the affairs of the Exchange had to be placed in the hands of a Receiver, and the Bulb Syndicate, owing principally also, I understand, to its financial losses in 1895, had to suspend operations.

POPULATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The Registrar-General estimated the resident civilian population of these islands at the end of 1896 at 15,952, comprising 6,117 white (3,007 males and 3,110 females), and 9,835 coloured persons (4,558 males and 5,277 females).

The birth rate was 31·4, and the death rate 19·8, per 1,000. Of the births, 14·1 were illegitimate.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1896 was 3,056, and the deaths numbered 11, the rate of mortality thus being about 3·5 per 1,000. Of these deaths five were due to enteric fever.

The senior medical officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been very good. Average strength of the garrison, 1,387; number of admissions to hospital, 653; ratio of admission per 1,000 of strength, 470·8; number of deaths, 8; average number of daily sick, 37·26; average sick time to each soldier, 9·83 days; average duration of each case of sickness, 20·88 days. Average strength of officers, 61; cases of sickness, 31; death, none.

The principal naval medical officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 302, an increase on the previous year of 81; the increase being chiefly due to diseases of the respiratory and digestive organs, such as bronchitis and diarrhœa, of no great importance. There has been no epidemic disease, and of enteric fever only four cases, with one death.

Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 462, an increase, compared with 1895, of 12, and a decrease, compared with 1894, of 34.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 389, of whom 211 were summarily convicted, 54 discharged for want of evidence, 100 acquitted, and 24 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 211 persons summarily convicted, 150 were fined, eight imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 33 were peremptorily imprisoned and 20 bound over to keep the peace.

Twenty cases were tried in the superior courts during the year and the convictions numbered 12. Of these, three were for offences against the person and nine for offences against property.

Gaols.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 89 (80 males and 9 females). Of these, 32 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 57 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

Lunatic Asylum.

Seven patients (five males and two females) were admitted into the asylum in 1896, none were discharged, and one died.

The daily average number of patients was 40.

Education.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—22 aided primary schools; 1,322 scholars (725 boys and 597 girls); school fees, 589*l.*; Government contributions, 1,105*l.*

One aided secondary school with 43 scholars (26 boys and 17 girls); school fees, 116*l.*; Government contributions, 67*l.*

In addition to two garrison schools and one dockyard school there are about 30 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The returns from the observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 115 feet above sea level, show as follows :—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·128 inches; mean temperature of the air, 69·7 degrees; mean relative humidity, 85 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8·9 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 59·38 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 6 years, 4·51 inches less; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 119.

BOARD OF TRADE STATISTICS.

The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below :—

Population.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
1895 -	7,475	8,319	15,794
1896 -	7,565	8,387	15,952

—	1895.	1896.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue - - -	37,829	34,256
Gross amount of public expenditure - -	33,005	34,717
Customs revenue - - - -	27,451	26,717
Public debt - - - - -	47,100	46,600
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared -	361,683	391,475
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared -	286,695	338,312
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared -	74,988	53,163
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared -	34,140	40,339
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared -	327,543	351,136
	£	£
Value of total imports (including specie) -	305,514	304,970
Value of total imports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	40	75

	1895.	1896.
	£	£
Value of imports from the United Kingdom (including specie) - - - -	88,383	90,025
Value of total exports (including specie) -	115,913	108,613
Value of total exports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated) - -	6,895	7,550
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom (including specie) - - - -	2,129	2,853
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works - - - - - -	4,464	21,141

I have, &c.

ARCHIBALD ALISON,
Colonial Secretary.

To his Excellency
Lieut.-Gen. George Digby Barker, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 228.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1897.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 192.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May, 1898.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty s Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
196	Malta	1896
197	British New Guinea	1895-96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands	1896
199	Barbados	,,
200	Leeward Islands	1895
201	Trinidad and Tobago	1896
202	Gibraltar	,,
203	Fiji (Trade)	,,
204	Straits Settlements	1895
205	Do. do.	1896
206	Falkland Islands	,,
207	British Honduras	,,
208	Sierra Leone	,,
209	Grenada	,,
210	Hong Kong	,,
211	St. Lucia	,,
212	St. Vincent	,,
213	St. Helena	,,
214	Seychelles	,,
215	Mauritius	,,
216	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1897
217	Fiji	1896
218	Ceylon	,,
219	Lagos	,,
220	Gold Coast	,,
221	Labuan	,,
222	British Guiana	1896-97
223	Rodrigues	1896
224	Basutoland	1896-97
226	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
227	Leeward Islands	1896

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.

No. 228.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 192.)

GOVERNOR BARKER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Bermuda,
23rd March 1898.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the report on the annual Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1897, which has been prepared by the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,
G. DIGBY BARKER,
Lieut.-General, Governor, and Commander-in-Chief.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Bermuda,
16th March 1898.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1897 :—

FINANCE.

2. The revenue for the year amounted to £35,965 and the expenditure to £35,704. Compared with 1896 the revenue shews an increase of £1709 and the expenditure an increase of £987.

The revenue returns for 1896 were supplemented by the sum of £1000 and those for 1897 by the sum of £906, which amounts were paid into the Treasury by the Trustees of the Savings Bank, being the excess of the assets of the bank over its liabilities owing to the enhanced value of consols in which its funds are invested.

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Excluding these abnormal receipts the revenue in 1897 shews an increase compared with 1896 of £1803.

3. The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1897 with that of 1896 :—

REVENUE.

—	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1896... ...	26,717	7,539	34,256
1897... ...	28,117	7,848	35,965
Increase £	1,400	309	1,709

EXPENDITURE.

—	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1896	19,007	15,710	34,717
1897	17,289	18,415	35,704
Increase £	—	2,705	987
Decrease £	1,718	—	—

Compared with 1896 the following were the principal differences shewn in the disbursements :—

	£
Colonial Surveyor, an increase of ...	... 1,705
Miscellaneous Payments	... 601
Whilst in the—	
Library there was a decrease of ...	... 430
Annuities and Gratuities	... 296

The increase under the heading of "Colonial Surveyor" is chiefly due to expenditure on new works.

The decrease under the heading of "Library" is due to there being no importation of new books in 1897.

4. The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows :—

	£
Governor's salary	... 2,199
Military Establishments	... 109,532

Compared with 1896 the latter return shews an increase of £4100.

The expenditure on the naval establishments is not returned.

PUBLIC DEBT.

5. The Public Debt at the end of 1897 amounted to £46,100, made up as follows :—

	£
Local Inscribed Stock	40,000
New Government House Debentures ...	6,100

The rate of interest on the local inscribed stock is $4\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., and the average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. Both of these loans were issued locally.

The local inscribed stock which was issued in 1893-4 is redeemable at par in 1923, and the sum of £1000, being the second annual instalment to be paid on account of the sinking fnnd created in connection therewith, was remitted last year to London for investment.

LEGISLATION.

6. The regular session of 1896 did not close until the 6th January 1897. The Act passed in this session in 1897 does not call for special notice.

The regular session of 1897 commenced on the 20th May and was not closed until after the commencement of 1898.

Of the 13 Acts passed in this session during 1897 the most important are :—

(No. 4.) "The Survey of Bermuda Act, 1897."

(No. 5.) "The Demise of the Crown Act, 1897."

(No. 7.) "An Act to amend the law relating to Aliens."

(No. 12.) "The Statute Law Consolidation Act, 1897."

By Act No. 4 an additional grant of £150 was made towards the cost of the proposed trigonometrical survey and map of these Islands.

Act No. 5 provides that the Colonial Parliament of these Islands shall not be determined or dissolved by or after any future demise of the Crown unless it should be sooner prorogued or dissolved.

Act No. 7 provides that aliens or statutory aliens possessed of or entitled to land in these Islands at the time of the commencement of the Act may dispose thereof by deed within five years thereafter, and that aliens or statutory aliens becoming, after the commencement of the Act, entitled to land by devise or inheritance may dispose thereof by deed within five years after so becoming entitled.

BERMUDA. 1897.

By this Act also the 1st section of the Alien Act, 1857, is repealed. This section provided that persons born out of Her Majesty's Dominions, of a mother being a natural born subject, should be capable of taking real or personal estate in Bermuda.

Act No. 12 makes provision for the consolidation of the Acts of the Legislature in certain cases.

COUNCILS AND ASSEMBLY.

7. The Colonial Parliament, which was first summoned in May 1890, having been in existence for nearly the full period (seven years) provided by law, was dissolved in February and a general election for members of the House of Assembly was held the following month.

Of the 36 members then returned 28 had been members of the old House.

The number of persons qualified to vote at this election was 1,123 (732 white and 391 coloured), or an average of 31 electors for each member.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

8. His Excellency the Governor was absent on leave from the 2nd September to the 10th October. During his absence Colonel E. C. S. Moore, R.E., C.R.E., the senior military officer in the command, administered the government.

Consequent on the death of the Worshipful John Fowle, Police Magistrate for Sandys Parish, in September, Mr. John B. Zuill was appointed in October to fill that office.

IMPORTS (exclusive of specie).

9. The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £74) in 1897 was £323,074.

Compared with 1896 this shews an increase of £18,179, with 1895 of £17,600, and with 1894 of £39,122.

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1896 and 1897 is shewn in the following table :—

	1896.	1897.
	£	£
United Kingdom	90,025	95,424
Canada	20,886	24,550
Other British Colonies	7,756	6,517
United States of America...	184,391	195,167
Other Countries	1,837	1,416
Total ... ... £	304,895	323,074

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1897 were clothing, valued at £7,725; cotton goods, £11,799; woollen goods, £13,086; oilman's stores, £5,015; jewellery and plated ware, £2,957; sugar, £3,856; and malt liquor, £18,963.

The principal imports from the United States of America were butter, valued at £10,698; flour, £18,744; groceries, £4,559; leather manufactures, £6,482; provisions, including smoked and pickled meat, £13,470; oxen and cows, £29,481.

EXPORTS (exclusive of specie).

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £4,621) in 1897 was £123,082.

Compared with 1896 this shews an increase of £22,019, and with 1895 of £14,064.

The following table shews the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1896 and 1897:—

	1896.	1897.
	£	£
United Kingdom	2,853	3,519
Canada	3,210	1,640
Other British Colonies	2,847	1,213
United States of America...	91,407	116,294
Other Countries	746	416
Total ... ... £	101,063	123,082

The principal export to the United Kingdom in 1897 was bulbs, valued at £1,803.

The principal exports to the United States were onions, valued at £84,112, an increase compared with the preceding year of £29,269; lily bulbs, valued at £8,080, a decrease compared with the preceding year of £4,351; and potatoes, £19,529, an increase of £712.

POPULATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

10. The Acting Registrar-General estimated the resident civilian population of these Islands at the end of 1897 at 16,098, comprising 6,184 white (3,034 males and 3,150 females), and 9,914 coloured persons (4,584 males and 5,330 females).

BERMUDA. 1897.

The birth rate was 31·7 and the death rate 21 per 1000. The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 16·2 to 100 births.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1897 was 3,178, and the deaths numbered 20, the rate of mortality thus being about 6·2 per 1000. Of these deaths 7 were due to enteric fever.

The senior medical officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. Average strength of the garrison, 1,521; number of admissions to hospital, 687; ratio of admission per 1000 of strength, 451·68; number of deaths, 16; average number of daily sick, 40·64; average sick time to each soldier, 9·75 days; average duration of each case of sickness, 21·59 days. Average strength of officers, 67; cases of sickness, 20; deaths, 2.

The principal naval medical officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 315, an increase on the previous year of 13. The most prevalent diseases were venereal affections, diseases of the respiratory and digestive systems, and local injuries. There has been no epidemic disease, and of enteric fever only four cases.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

11. The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 336, a decrease compared with 1896 of 126, and a decrease compared with 1895 of 114.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 315, of whom 185 were summarily convicted, 39 discharged for want of evidence, 68 acquitted, and 23 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 185 persons summarily convicted, 122 were fined, 8 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 34 peremptorily imprisoned, 1 whipped, and 10 bound over to keep the peace.

Twenty-two cases were tried in the superior courts during the year and the convictions numbered 17. Of these 12 were for offences against the person and 5 for offences against property.

GAOLS.

12. The number of persons confined in the gaols was 92 (84 males and 8 females). Of these 33 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 59 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

13. Three patients (2 males and 1 female) were admitted into the asylum in 1897, 1 was discharged and 6 died.

The daily average number of patients was 43.

EDUCATION.

14. The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns :—

21 aided primary schools with 1,296 scholars (681 boys and 615 girls), school fees £558, Government contributions £1,108.

Three aided secondary schools with 108 scholars (67 boys and 41 girls), school fees £355, Government contributions £116.

In addition to two garrison schools and one dock-yard school there are about 30 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

15. The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, shew as follows :—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·132 inches ; mean temperature of the air, 70·0 degrees ; mean relative humidity, 84 per cent. ; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8·8 miles ; total amount of rainfall during the year, 59·40 inches ; difference of rainfall from average of past seven years, 4·89 inches less; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 181.

BOARD OF TRADE STATISTICS.

16. The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below :—

Population.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
1893 ...	7,565	8,387	15,952
1897 ...	7,618	8,480	16,098

	1896.	1897.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue	34,256	35,965
Gross amount of public expenditure	34,717	35,704
Customs revenue	26,717	28,117
Public debt	46,600	46,100
	Tons.	Tons.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared	391,475	346,538
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared	338,312	300,954
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared	53,163	45,584
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared	40,339	27,520
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared	351,136	319,018
	£	£
Value of total imports (including specie)...	304,970	323,148
Value of total imports of gold and silver, bullion and specie (so far as can be stated).	75	74
Value of imports from the United Kingdom (including specie).	90,625	95,424
Value of total exports (including specie)	108,613	127,703
Value of total exports of gold and silver bullion and specie (so far as can be stated).	7,550	4,621
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom (including specie).	2,853	3,519
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works ...	21,141	nil.

I have, &c.,
J. TUCKER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
Lieut.-General G. Digby Barker, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORT—ANNUAL.

No. 259.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 228.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
May, 1899.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
230	Turks and Caicos Islands	1897
231	Barbados...	"
232	Lagos	"
233	St. Vincent	"
234	Sierra Leone	"
235	Falkland Islands	"
236	Straits Settlements	"
237	British New Guinea	1896–97
238	Bahamas...	1897
239	St. Lucia	"
240	St. Helena	"
241	Trinidad and Tobago	"
242	British Honduras	"
243	Malta	"
244	Fiji	"
245	Hong Kong	"
246	Leeward Islands	"
247	Grenada	"
248	Gibraltar	"
249	Gold Coast	"
250	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
251	Solomon Islands	1897–98
252	Seychelles	1897
253	Labuan	"
254	Ceylon	"
255	Basutoland	1897–98
256	Newfoundland	1896–97
257	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1898
258	British New Guinea	1897–98

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.

No. 259.

BERMUDA.

BERMUDA, 1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 228.)

GOVERNOR BARKER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Bermuda,
23rd March, 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1898, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

G. DIGBY BARKER,
Lieutenant-General, Governor
and Commander-in-Chief.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1898.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Bermuda,
22nd March, 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1898 :—

I.—FINANCIAL.

The Revenue for the year amounted to £38,923 and the Expenditure to £39,102. Compared with 1897, the revenue shews an increase of £2,958 and the expenditure an increase of £3,398.

2715—800—4/99 Wt 21935 D & S—5 (B)

BERMUDA, 1898.

The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1898 with that of 1897 :—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1897...	28,117	7,848	35,965
1898...	31,021	7,902	38,923
Increase £	2,904	54	2,958

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1897	17,289	18,415	35,704
1898	17,875	21,227	39,102
Increase £	586	2,812	3,398

The increase in the Revenue is nearly entirely due to the increased Customs receipts under nearly every heading. This may be accounted for in consequence of some increase in the garrison here, and the growing popularity of these Islands as a winter resort.

Compared with 1897, the following were the principal differences shewn in the disbursements :—

	£
Colonial Surveyor's Department, an increase of	2,380
Agriculture "	450

whilst in the—

Gaols Department there was a decrease of ...	203

The increase under the heading of "Colonial Surveyor" is chiefly due to expenditure on the purchase of land and erection of buildings in connection with the recent establishment of a public garden.

Revenue and Expenditure for last five years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1894	32,476	34,216
1895	37,830	33,'06
1896	34,256	34,717
1897	35,965	35,704
1898	38,923	39,102

Public Debt.

The public debt at the end of 1898 amounted to £45,600, made up as follows:—

	£
Local Inscribed Stock	40,000
New Government House Debentures	5,600

The rate of interest on the local inscribed stock is 4¼ per cent., and the average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is 4⅜ per cent. Both of these loans were issued locally.

The local inscribed stock which was issued in 1893–4 is redeemable at par in 1923, and the sum of £1,000, being the third annual instalment to be paid on account of the sinking fund created in connection therewith, was remitted last year to London for investment.

II.—Trade and Agriculture.

Imports (exclusive of specie).

The value of the Imports (exclusive of specie, valued at £199) in 1898 was £351,274.

Compared with 1897, this shews an increase of £28,200, with 1896 of £46,379, and with 1895 of £45,800.

BERMUDA, 1898.

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1897 and 1898 is shewn in the following table :—

—	1897.	1898.
	£	£
United Kingdom	95,424	104,974
Canada	24,550	30,611
Other British Colonies ...	6,517	7,346
United States of America	195,167	205,308
Other Countries	1,416	3,035
Total ... £	323,074	351,274

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1898 were clothing, valued at £6,310 ; cotton goods, £9,238 ; woollen goods, £15,021 ; oilman's stores, £6,492 ; sugar, £4,388 ; malt liquor, £20,958 ; and fancy goods, £2,974.

The principal imports from the United States of America were butter, valued at £11,497 ; flour, £19,725 ; groceries, £6,009 ; leather manufactures, £7,937 ; provisions, including smoked and pickled meat, £14,323 ; and oxen and cows, £22,482.

Exports (exclusive of specie).

The value of the Exports (exclusive of specie, valued at £7,799) in 1898 was £106,104.

Compared with 1897, this shews a decrease of £16,978, and with 1896 an increase of £5,041.

The following table shews the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1897 and 1898 :—

—	1897.	1898.
	£	£
United Kingdom	3,519	4,041
Canada	1,640	2,138
Other British Colonies ...	1,213	1,835
United States of America	116,294	97,847
Other Countries	416	943
Total ... £	123,082	106,104

The principal exports to the United Kingdom in 1898 were arrowroot, valued at £1,241 ; and bulbs, valued at £1,195.

The principal exports to the United States were onions, valued at £58,373, a decrease compared with the preceding year of £25,739 ; bulbs, valued at £15,452, an increase compared with the preceding year of £7,372 ; and potatoes, £19,955, an increase of £426.

Value of Imports and Exports for last five years.

Year.	Imports	Exports.
	£	£
1894	283 952	94,334
1895	305,474	10 ',018
1896	304,895	101,063
1897	323,074	123,082
1898	351,274	106,104

BOTANICAL STATION.

A public garden has been acquired since the date of the last report, and a Superintendent obtained from England, who has made considerable progress in ascertaining by experiments the causes of the various diseases which now deteriorate our crops and in determining the means to be adopted to eradicate the diseases.

Special attention has been given to the cultivation of the lily, with good results.

The garden is now under cultivation, and it is hoped good results will be obtained from its establishment.

SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED.

	1897.			1898.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	291,993	8,961	300,954	399,904	9,847	409,751
Foreign	27,025	18,559	45,584	37,446	24,759	62,205
Total ...	319,018	27,520	346,538	437,350	34,606	471,956

SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED FOR LAST FIVE YEARS.

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons.
1894	272,503	21,305
1895	286,695	74,988
1896	338,312	53,163
1897	300,954	45,584
1898	409,751	62,205

III.—LEGISLATION.

The regular Session of 1898 commenced on the 30th May and was not closed until after the commencement of 1899.

Of the 26 Acts passed during 1898 the most important are: "The Pilot Act" and "The Board of Works Act."

The first-mentioned Act is a consolidating and amending Act.

Under the Board of Works Act, the constitution of the Board is altered from a Board of from five to seven members to a Board consisting of a Chairman and nine other members, one being selected from each parish.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—

Twenty-one aided primary schools, with 1,215 scholars (636 boys and 579 girls); School fees, £485; Government contributions, £1,136.

Three aided secondary schools, with 104 scholars (73 boys and 31 girls); School fees, £330; Government contributions, £141.

In addition to three garrison schools and one dockyard school, there are about 30 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are four secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Lunatic Asylum.

Eight patients (five males and three females) were admitted into the Asylum in 1898 ; three were discharged and two died.

The daily average number of patients was 44.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 398, an increase compared with 1897 of 62, and a decrease compared with 1896 of 64.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 402, of whom 218 were summarily convicted, 69 discharged for want of evidence, 95 acquitted, and 20 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 218 persons summarily convicted, 148 were fined, 11 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 29 peremptorily imprisoned, 3 whipped, and 27 bound over to keep the peace.

Eighteen cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, and the convictions numbered 12. Of these, nine were for offences against the person and three for offences against property.

Gaols.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 92 (87 males and 5 females). Of these, 41 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 51 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

Population and Public Health.

The Registrar-General estimated the resident civilian population of these Islands at the end of 1898 at 16,291, comprising 6,239 white (3,074 males and 3,165 females), and 10,052 coloured persons (4,635 males and 5,417 females).

Compared with the figures of the last census (taken in 1891), the total population shews an estimated increase of 1,278.

BERMUDA, 1898.

The birth-rate was 32·8 and the death-rate 19·4 per 1,000. The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 15·5 to 100 births.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1898 was 3,200, and the deaths numbered 18, the rate of mortality thus being about 5·6 per 1,000. Of these deaths five were due to enteric fever.

The senior medical officer in charge of the Military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. Average strength of the garrison 1,730; number of admissions to hospital, 865; ratio of admission per 1,000 of strength, 500; number of deaths, 11; average number of daily sick, 48·02; average sick time to each soldier, 10·13 days; average duration of each case of sickness, 20·26 days; average strength of officers, 63; cases of sickness, 18; deaths, none.

The principal Naval medical officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 311, four less than during 1897. The most prevalent diseases were venereal affections and their sequelæ, diseases of the glandular system and connective tissue, wounds and injuries, and diseases of the digestive system.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The returns from the observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, shew as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·114 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70·4 degrees; mean relative humidity, 77·4 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8·2 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 48·19 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past eight years, 14·62 inches less; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 207.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary	2,199
Military Establishments	135,850

Compared with 1897, the latter return shews an increase of £26,318.

The expenditure on the Naval establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the Regular Military forces at Bermuda in 1898 was 1,730; and the average strength of the Naval forces 1,470.

Return of Militia:—Two companies, viz.: The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 106 officers and men; and the Submarine Miners Engineer Militia, 43 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers:—Bermuda Rifle Volunteer Corps, 319 officers and men.

X.—General Observations.

Civil Establishment.

In May Mr. G. A. Bishop was appointed the first Superintendent of the newly-established Public Garden.

XI.—Board of Trade Statistics.

The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1897	7,618	8,480	16,098
1898	7,709	8,582	16,291

—	1897.	1898.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue	35,965	38,923
Gross amount of public expenditure	35,704	39,102
Customs revenue	28,117	31,021
Public debt...	46,100	45,600

—	1897.	1898.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared ...	Tons. 346,538	Tons. 471,956
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared...	300,954	409,751
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared...	45,584	62,205
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared...	27,520	34,606
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared...	319,018	437,350
Value of total imports (including specie) ...	£ 323,148	£ 351,473
Value of total imports of gold and silver, bullion and specie (so far as can be stated).	74	199
Value of imports from the United Kingdom (including specie).	95,424	105,033
Value of total exports (including specie) ...	127,703	113,903
Value of total exports of gold and silver, bullion and specie (so far as can be stated).	4,621	7,799
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom (including specie).	3,519	4,041
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works.	nil.	nil.

I have, &c.,

ARCHIBALD ALISON,

Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency
Lieut.-General G. Digby Barker, C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 293

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1899.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 259.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

June, 1900.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
265	St. Helena	1898
266	Leeward Islands	"
267	St. Lucia	"
268	Fiji	"
269	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
270	Malta	"
271	Gold Coast	"
272	Trinidad	"
273	Sierra Leone	"
274	Ceylon	"
275	British Solomon Islands	1898–99
276	Gibraltar	1898
277	Bahamas...	"
278	British Honduras	"
279	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
280	Grenada	"
281	St. Vincent	"
282	Hong Kong	"
283	Jamaica	1898–99
284	Lagos	1898
285	Seychelles	"
286	Christmas and Cocos-Keeling Islands ...	1899
287	Straits Settlements	1898
288	Basutoland	1898-99
289	Niger Coast Protectorate	"
290	British Guiana	1897–98 & 1898–99
291	Falkland Islands	1899
292	British New Guinea	1898–9

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Report for 1899.

No. 293.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 259.)

GOVERNOR BARKER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Bermuda,
31st March, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1899, which has been prepared by Mr. Alison, the Colonial Secretary.

The books will be forwarded at an early date.

I have, &c.,
G. DIGBY BARKER,
Lieutenant-General, Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Bermuda,
26th March, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1899:—

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue for the year amounted to £39,955 and the expenditure to £39,243. Compared with 1898 the revenue shews an increase of £1,032 and the expenditure an increase of £141.

5709—800—4/1900 Wt 24600 D & S—5 (B)

BERMUDA, 1899

The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1899 with that of 1898:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1898...	31,021	7,902	38,923
1899...	33,106	6,849	39,955
Increase £	2,085	—	1,032
Decrease £	—	1,053	—

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1898	17,875	21,227	39,102
1899	17,976	21,267	39,243
Increase £	101	40	141

The increase in the revenue is due to the increased Customs receipts under nearly every heading. This may be accounted for in consequence of the growing popularity of these Islands as a winter resort, the increase in value of imports, and an increase in the strength of the Imperial forces in the Command. The decrease in the miscellaneous receipts is primarily due to reduction in postage to Great Britain and the British Colonies and to the fact that a surplus of about £700 on account of the Channel Loan was paid into the Treasury in 1898, thus considerably increasing the miscellaneous receipts in that year.

Compared with 1898 the following was the principal difference shewn in the disbursements: —

	£.
Colonial Surveyor's Department—a decrease of ...	1,409

The decrease under this heading is chiefly due to the expenditure in the preceding year on the purchase of land and erection of buildings in connection with the establishment of a public garden.

Revenue and Expenditure for last five years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1895	37,830	33,006
1896	34,256	34,717
1897	35,965	35,704
1898	38,923	39,102
1899	39,955	39,243

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the end of 1899 amounted to £44,800, made up as follows: —

	£.
Local Inscribed Stock	40,000
New Government House Debentures ...	4,800

The rate of interest on the Local Inscribed Stock is 4¼%., and the average rate of interest on the Government House Debentures is 4⅜%. Both of these loans were issued locally.

The Local Inscribed Stock which was issued in 1893-4 is redeemable at par in 1923, and the sum of £1,000, being the fourth annual instalment to be paid on account of the sinking fund created in connection therewith, was remitted last year to London for investment.

BERMUDA, 1899.

II.—TRADE AND AGRICULTURE.

Imports (exclusive of specie).

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie, valued at £218) in 1899 was £394,388.

Compared with 1898, this shews an increase of £43,114, with 1897 of £71,314, and with 1896 of £89,493.

The value of the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1898 and 1899 is shewn in the following table:—

—	1898.	1899.
	£	£
United Kingdom	104,974	104,408
Canada	30,611	33,119
Other British Colonies ...	7,346	7,238
United States of America	205,308	246,447
Other Countries	3,035	3,176
Total ... £	351,274	394,388

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1898 were clothing, valued at £6,711; cotton goods, £19,922; woollen goods £8,961; oilman's stores, £7,744; sugar, £4,649; malt liquor, £17,329; and fancy goods, £3,352.

The principal imports from the United States of America were butter, valued at £12,539; flour, £16,125; groceries, £5,199; leather manufactures, £9,271; provisions, including smoked and pickled meat, £18,354; oxen and cows £27,351; furniture, £7,598; and fertilizer, £5,866.

Exports (exclusive of specie.)

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie, valued at £6,666) in 1899 was £119,151.

Compared with 1898, this shews an increase of £13,047, and with 1897 a decrease of £3,931.

The following table shews the value of the exports to the United Kingdom and other countries respectively in 1898 and 1899:—

—	1898.	1899.
	£	£
United Kingdom	4,041	2,063
Canada	2,138	2,535
Other British Colonies ...	1,835	1,875
United States of America	97,847	111,638
Other Countries	943	1,040
Total ... £	106,104	119,151

The principal exports to the United Kingdom in 1899 were arrowroot, valued at £460; and bulbs valued at £742.

The principal exports to the United States were onions, valued at £64,225, an increase compared with the preceding year of £5,852; bulbs, valued at £17,412, an increase compared with the preceding year of £1,960; and potatoes, £24,518, an increase of £4,563.

Value of Imports and Exports for last five years.

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1895	305,474	109,018
1896	304,895	101,063
1897	323,074	123,082
1898	351,274	106,104
1899	394,388	119,151

Botanical Station.

Since the last report material improvement has been made in the Public Garden.

Greenhouses are being built, a system of irrigation by tanks established, and the land gradually improved and enriched.

The cause of the lily disease has been discovered, and from the treatment adopted, the whole crop is in a much healthier condition, and it is hoped that by judicious use of the curative means the disease will be nearly entirely eradicated.

Shipping Entered and Cleared.

	1898.			1899.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	399,904	9,847	409,751	475,632	7,798	483,430
Foreign	37,446	24,759	62,205	66,778	18,571	85,349
Total ...	437,350	34,606	471,956	542,410	26,369	568,779

Shipping Entered and Cleared for last five years.

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons.
1895	286,695	74,988
1896	338,312	53,163
1897	300,954	45,584
1898	409,751	62,205
1899	483,430	85,349

III.—LEGISLATION.

The regular Session of 1898 did not close until the 25th January, 1899.

The regular Session of 1899 commenced on 31st May and continued until the 30th June, when, after an interval of three days, a second session was commenced and was not finished until after the commencement of 1900.

During the year 36 Acts were passed, of which 17 were Acts continuing Measures about to expire.

19 Resolves were passed appropriating £9,713 for services not otherwise provided for by law.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—

22 aided primary schools, with 1,215 scholars (632 boys and 583 girls); school fees, £492; Government contributions, £1,140.

3 aided secondary schools, with 113 scholars (73 boys and 40 girls); school fees, £309; Government contributions, £135.

In addition to 2 garrison schools and 1 dockyard school, there are about 30 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are 4 secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants.

V.—Government Institutions.

Lunatic Asylum.

4 patients (1 male and 3 females) were admitted into the asylum in 1899; 2 were discharged and 3 died.

The daily average number of patients was 44.

VI.—Judicial Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 323, a decrease compared with 1898 of 75, and with 1897, of 13.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 282, of whom 195 were summarily convicted, 23 discharged for want of evidence, 51 acquitted, and 13 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 195 persons summarily convicted, 141 were fined, 8 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 28 peremptorily imprisoned, 4 whipped, 2 bound over to keep the peace, and 12 discharged after conviction without punishment.

14 cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, and the convictions numbered 8. Of these, 4 were for offences against the person and 4 for offences against property.

Gaols.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 49 (47 males and 2 females). Of these, 6 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 43 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

VII.—Vital Statistics.

Population and Public Health.

The Registrar General estimated the resident civilian population of these Islands at the end of 1899 at 16,423, comprising 6,282 white (3,094 males and 3,188 females) and 10,141 coloured persons (4,675 males and 5,466 females).

Compared with the figures of the last census (taken in 1891) the total population shews an estimated increase of 1,409.

The birth rate was 30·2 and the death rate 20·6 per 1,000. The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 18·1 to 100 births.

The average strength of the Imperial Forces in Bermuda in 1899 was 3,647, and the deaths numbered 11, the rate of mortality thus being about 3 per 1,000. There were no deaths from enteric fever.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the Military forces in the Command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. Average strength of the European garrison 1,700; number of admissions to hospital, 645; ratio of admission per 1,000 of strength, 379; number of deaths, 2; average number of daily sick, 34·79; average sick time to each soldier, 7·47 days; average duration of each case of sickness, 10·69 days; average strength of officers, 65; cases of sickness, 16; deaths, none.

The principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 360, 49 more than during 1898. The most prevalent diseases were venereal affections, heart disease, and rheumatism.

Meteorological Observations.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, shew as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·115 inches; mean temperature of the air, 69·9 degrees; mean relative humidity, 79·3 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8·5 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 57·91 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past 9 years, 3·27 inches less; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 191.

IX.—Military Forces.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£.
Governor's salary	2,199
Military Establishments	155,627

Compared with 1898, the latter return shews an increase of £19,777.

The expenditure on the Naval Establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular Military forces at Bermuda in 1899 was 1,778; and the average strength of the Naval forces 1,869.

Return of Militia:—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 366 officers and men; and the Submarine Miners Engineer Militia, 43 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers:—Bermuda Rifle Volunteers Corps, 319 officers and men.

X.—General Observations.

Civil Establishment.

Consequent on the death of Mr. James Tucker, C.M.G., Receiver General, in January, Mr. Francis Wm. Major was appointed in September to fill that office.

The death of the Chief Justice, Sir Josiah Rees, Kt., occurred on the 4th November, 1899.

On the night of the 12th and morning of the 13th September a severe storm passed over these Islands, doing serious damage to property of all descriptions.

The loss to Colonial Government property alone was estimated at £16,000. The Causeway Road between the Main Island and St. George's Island was almost completely destroyed.

XI.—Board of Trade Statistics.

The usual table prepared for the Board of Trade statistics is given below:—

Population.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1898	7,709	8,582	16,291
1899	7,769	8,654	16,423

—	1898.	1899.
	£	£
Gross amount of public revenue	38,923	39,955
Gross amount of public expenditure	39,102	39,243
Customs revenue	31,021	33,106
Public debt...	45,600	44,800

—	1898.	1899.
Total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared ...	Tons. 471,956	Tons. 568,779
Tonnage of British vessels entered and cleared...	409,751	483,430
Tonnage of foreign vessels entered and cleared...	62,205	85,349
Tonnage of sailing vessels entered and cleared...	34,606	26,369
Tonnage of steam vessels entered and cleared...	437,350	542,410
Value of total imports (including specie) ...	£ 351,473	£ 394,606
Value of total imports of gold and silver, bullion and specie (so far as can be stated).	199	218
Value of imports from the United Kingdom (including specie).	105,033	104,408
Value of total exports (including specie) ...	113,903	125,817
Value of total exports of gold and silver, bullion and specie (so far as can be stated).	7,799	6,666
Value of total exports to the United Kingdom (including specie).	4,041	2,063
Amount of expenditure from loans on public works.	nil.	nil.

I have, &c.,

ARCHIBALD ALISON,

Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency

LIEUT.-GENERAL G. DIGBY BARKER, C.B.,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 322.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 293.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
May, 1901.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
296	Fiji	1899
297	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
298	Bahamas	"
299	Sierra Leone	"
300	Gambia	"
301	Seychelles	"
302	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
303	Trinidad and Tobago	"
304	Straits Settlements	"
305	Gibraltar	"
306	Gold Coast	"
307	Ceylon	"
308	Leeward Islands	"
309	St. Helena	"
310	British Honduras	"
311	St. Lucia	1899–1900
312	St. Vincent	1899
313	Basutoland	"
314	Hong Kong	"
315	Southern Nigeria	1899–1900
316	Grenada	1899
317	Jamaica	1899–1900
318	British Guiana	"
319	Christmas Island	1900
320	British Solomon Islands	1899-1900
321	Lagos	1899

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.

No. 322.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 293.)

GOVERNOR SIR G. D. BARKER to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Bermuda,

19th April, 1901.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1900, which has been prepared by Mr. Smith, the Acting Colonial Secretary.

The books will be forwarded at an early date.

I have, &c.,

G. DIGBY BARKER,

General, Governor,

and Commander-in-Chief.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Bermuda,

13th April, 1901.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit to your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1900:—

c9114—800—5/1901 Wt 24800 D & S 5

BERMUDA, 1900

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1900.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.)—GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Revenue for the year amounted to £40,124, and the Expenditure to £47,532. Compared with 1889 the Revenue shows an increase of £169, and the Expenditure an increase of £8,289.

The following tables compare the Revenue and Expenditure for 1900 with that of 1899:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1899...	33,106	6,849	39,955
1900...	32,394	7,730	40,124
Increase ...	—	899	169
Decrease ...	712	—	—

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1899	17,976	21,267	39,243
1900	17,734	29,798	47,532
Increase ...	—	8,531	8,289
Decrease ...	242	—	—

The falling off of Revenue under the head of Customs is largely due to a decrease in the quantity of malt liquor imported during 1900 as compared with 1899, the decrease in Revenue from this source being £1,542. This decrease is partly made up by an increase of Revenue from import duty on rum and other spirits, amounting to £836. A general reduction made in the strength of the military forces early in the year, and a substitution of a coloured for a white battalion of troops probably accounts for the changes under these headings of Revenue.

Under nearly every heading of Revenue except Customs there was an increase, which accounts for the increase under the heading "other receipts."

The refund to the Savings Bank by the Treasury of a sum of £6,000, which, owing to a defective audit, had been previously paid from Savings Bank funds into the Treasury, and the temporary loan to the Savings Bank of £2,000 from the Treasury, accounts to a large extent for the increase of expenditure. The only other heading under which there was a large increase was "agricultural," which shows an increase of £1,311, due chiefly to an expenditure of £530 in purchasing and shipping Bermuda produce to London, with the object of creating a demand for such produce in the London market, the payment of outstanding liabilities on account of the Public Garden amounting to £397, and increased expenditure in the upkeep of that institution.

The excess of expenditure over revenue was defrayed from the balance remaining in the Treasury from previous years.

(B.)—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1896	34,256	34,717
1897	35,965	35,704
1898	38,923	39,102
1899	39,955	39,243
1900	40,124	47,532

(C.)—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

	£
The Assets of the Colony at the end of 1900 amounted to	10,156
The Liabilities on the same date amounted to	3,439
Showing a balance of	6,717

BERMUDA, 1900

(D.)—PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt at the end of 1900 amounted to £49,600, made up as follows:—

	£
Local Inscribed Stock	45,500
New Government House Debentures ...	4,100

On £40,000 of the Local Inscribed Stock the rate of interest is 4½ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first-mentioned sum was raised in 1893-4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The Stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The fifth annual instalment of £1,000 payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the Sinking Fund created in connection with the loan was remitted to London for investment last year.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the Causeway connecting St. George's with the main Island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by a hurricane which passed over the Islands on the 13th September, 1899. The first annual instalment of £150 towards the Sinking Fund to be created in connection with this loan was also remitted to London last year for investment. The Stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

The average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is 4⅜ per cent. The original amount of the debt was £11,600, and it is being paid by the appropriation of £500 per annum from the General Revenue for the redemption of debentures to the last-mentioned amount.

All of the loans referred to were raised locally.

(E.)—CURRENCY.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government Bank, and there is no paper money in circulation with the exception of a very limited number of Bank of England notes. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two private Banks, one of which (the Bank of Bermuda, Limited) was incorporated by a local Act in 1889.

A Treasury Chest Office established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments in the Colony, issues Bills of Exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.)—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The value of the Imports (exclusive of specie valued at £153) in 1900 was £397,136.

Compared with 1899 this shows an increase of £2,748.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1896 to 1900 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1896 ...	304,895	90,625	20,886	7,756	184,391	1,837
1897 ...	323,074	95,424	24,550	6,517	195,167	1,416
1898 ...	351,274	104,974	30,611	7,346	205,308	3,035
1899 ...	394,388	104,408	33,119	7,228	246,447	3,176
1900 ...	397,136	104,009	31,488	9,932	250,729	978

In the above figures the value of Government Stores, Civil, Military, and Naval, is not included.

Comparing the figures for 1900 with those for 1896 the value of the total Imports shows an increase of 30 per cent. in the period covered by the above table. The Imports from the United Kingdom show an increase of 15 per cent., from Canada 50 per cent., from the United States 36 per cent.

The principal Imports from the United Kingdom in 1900, compared with 1899, were:

Article.	Value.	
	1900.	1899.
	£	£
Clothing	5,064	6,711
Cotton goods	10,972	19,922
Fancy goods	3,457	3,3[illegible]2
Oilmens' stores	8,200	7,744
Silk goods	5,587	1,041
Sugar	5,275	4,649
Woollen goods	16,948	8,961

The principal Imports from Canada were:—

Article.	Value. 1900.	Value. 1899.
	£	£
Box material	3,351	4,735
Butter...	3,300	2,914
Fish	3,396	3,076
Flour	1,148	787
Feed	1,105	1,078
Hay	1,518	1,212
Oats	3,092	3,603
Potatoes	3,650	4,268

The principal Imports from the United States were:—

Article.	Value. 1900.	Value. 1899.
	£	£
Beef	6,109	7,561
Butter...	12,554	12,539
Cotton goods...	8,692	8,470
Fertilizers	5,060	5,866
Flour	15,257	16,125
Canned fruit and meats	8,250	8,002
Groceries	6,167	5,199
Hardware	7,533	4,945
Leather Manufactures	11,460	9,271
Lumber	8,813	4,431
Kerosene oil	7,034	5,380
Oats	6,286	4,875
Provisions	17,6[illegible]	18,354
Oxen and cows	29,622	27,351

Exports.

The value of the Exports (exclusive of specie valued at £5,712) in 1900 was £93,769.

Compared with 1899 this shows a decrease of £25,382.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1896 to 1900 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1896 ...	101,063	2,853	3,210	2,847	91,407	746
1897 ...	123,082	3,519	1,640	1,213	116,294	416
1898 ...	106,104	4,041	2,138	1,835	97,847	943
1899 ...	119,151	2,063	2,535	1,875	111,638	1,040
1900 ...	93,769	4,683	2,071	1,299	85,599	117

The principal Exports to the United Kingdom in 1900, compared with 1899, were :—

Article.	Value.	
	1900.	1899.
	£	£
Arrowroot	2,242	460
Bulbs	560	742
Hides	844	350
Tallow...	534	178

The principal Exports to Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1900.	1899.
	£	£
Old iron	872	834
Onions...	447	700

BERMUDA, 1900.

The principal Exports to the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1900.	1899.
	£	£
Bulbs	11,382	17,412
Onions...	43,039	64,225
Potatoes	25,207	24,518
Miscellaneous vegetables	2,515	1,676

The marked decrease in the value of onions shipped to the United States in 1900 as compared with 1899 is due to a partial failure of the crop last year. The average price obtained was also somewhat less.

The falling off in the value of bulbs shipped to the United States was partly due to a decrease in the quantity exported, but principally to a decline in price.

(B.)—MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

There are no mines.

Manufactures.

There is an ice factory which manufactures most of the ice locally consumed.

There are two arrowroot factories, one of which, recently established, is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this valuable commodity.

The growth and manufacture of arrowroot, which were at one time important industries in this Colony, have, from various causes, greatly declined in recent years, and the question whether with improved appliances by which the starch can be extracted from the raw material with greater economy, the industry can be revived, is one which excites the interest of those who are watchful for the future welfare of the Colony.

Fisheries.

This industry is not engaged in to any large extent by any class in the Colony as an exclusive means of livelihood, but is carried on by the labouring class as a means of supplementing the means of subsistence, especially during the summer, when certain kinds of fish are plentiful, and there is not much employment for labourers in the field.

The whole of the fish is locally consumed.

(C.)—AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The production of onions and potatoes for the New York market is the chief agricultural industry, which has been carried on with varying success for many years. In 1900 both the crop of onions and the prices obtained were smaller than usual, which caused a depression in agricultural interests.

The culture of lily bulbs for export ranks next in importance, and under favourable conditions is a remunerative industry. In 1900 both the crop and the prices were below the average.

Improvements were made in the Public Garden during the year. One of the greenhouses has been brought into use, and a successful experiment was made in growing tomatoes under glass.

(E.)—SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1900, in comparison with 1899, is shown in the following table:—

Shipping Entered and Cleared.

	1899.			1900.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	475,632	7,798	483,430	566,563	12,556	579,119
American	5,067	13,096	18,163	7,456	9,453	16,909
Austrian	16,414	—	16,414	21,080	—	21,080
Danish	—	—	—	6,396	1,320	7,716
Dutch	2,302	—	2,302	—	—	—
French	6,342	—	6,342	—	—	—
German	16,222	—	16,222	34,721	—	34,721
Italian	7,078	—	7,078	33,278	—	33,278
Norwegian ...	13,353	2,169	15,522	12,180	728	12,908
Russian	—	—	—	—	1,905	1,905
Spanish	—	436	436	17,784	—	17,784
Swedish	—	2,870	2,870	—	—	—
Uruguayan ...	—	—	—	4,412	—	4,412
Totals ...	542,410	26,369	568,779	703,870	25,962	729,832

The increase in the tonnage of vessels entered and cleared shown by the above figures was brought about partly by an increase in the number of vessels calling at these Islands for coals, and partly by the improved service of the Pickford and Black Line of Mail Steamers to Canada and the West Indies under a new contract with the Imperial and Canadian Governments.

Shipping Entered and Cleared for last five years.

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons.
1896	338,312	53,163
1897	300,954	45,584
1898	409,751	62,205
1899	483,430	85,349
1900	579,119	150,713

III.—LEGISLATION.

Fifty-seven Acts were passed during 1900, the volume of legislation being greater than that of any previous year. Six of the measures were consolidating Acts, and one, "The Post Office Act, 1900," a consolidating and amending Act.

Of the Acts passed the following appear to be most worthy of note:—

No. 9. The Treaty of Washington Act, 1900. This measure makes provision for carrying into operation the articles of a Treaty between Great Britain and the United States for improving the conditions of trade between the United States and these Islands by making reciprocal reductions in the import duty levied on certain articles. The Treaty has not yet been ratified by the President and Senate of the United States.

No. 26. The Criminal Evidence Act, 1900. By this measure the criminal law of the Colony is amended so as to render a person charged with an offence, and the wife or husband of such person, a competent witness for the defence.

No. 35. The Census Act, 1900. This measure provides for the taking of the usual decennial Census of the Colony in 1901.

No. 45. The Post Office Act, 1900. By this measure the postal laws are amended and consolidated. It was prepared by the

Attorney-General in conjunction with an expert sent out from England for the purpose, and is based on the Post Office Consolidation Bill which was drawn three or four years ago for submission to the Imperial Parliament, with additions adapting the measure to local requirements.

No. 53. The Pilot Act, 1900. The Officers in command of foreign national ships are by this measure exempted from certain liabilities and penalties imposed by the Pilot Act, 1898, on masters of vessels for refusing to take a pilot, &c.

No. 55. The Bermuda Volunteer Act, 1900, and

No. 57. The Bermuda Militia Act, 1900. By these measures more effective provision is made for the discipline and management of the local volunteer and militia forces.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—

Twenty-three aided primary schools with 1,320 scholars (698 boys and 622 girls); school fees £558; Government contributions £1,184. Two aided secondary schools with 112 scholars (73 boys and 39 girls); school fees £184; Government contributions £97.

In addition to two garrison schools and one dockyard school there are about 30 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are four secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School for white boys, the Collegiate Institute for coloured boys and girls, and the Convent School and High School for white girls, all of which are situated in or near the City of Hamilton.

A Centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations was established in Bermuda in 1891.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.)—HOSPITALS.

With the exception of a hospital at the Quarantine Station there is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government. There is, however, a Cottage Hospital near the City of Hamilton which is supported by voluntary contributions.

Hospitals are also maintained in connection with the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments.

(B.)—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

An Asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in this Colony in 1846.

In 1871 provision was made by the Legislature for the purchase, and in 1874 for the alteration of a building known as the Devonshire College, to adapt it to the purpose of an Asylum for the insane, and this building, which has since been added to as necessity has arisen, is still used for that purpose.

The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants.

Six patients (five males and one female) were admitted into the Asylum in 1900. One patient was discharged. The daily average number of patients was 45.

(E.)—SAVINGS BANK.

The number of depositors on the 31st December, 1900, was 1,486, having to their credit an aggregate sum of £35,338. Compared with 1899 these figures show an increase of 153 in the number of depositors and £3,652 in the amount to the credit of depositors.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.)—POLICE.

The regular police force consists of a Superintendent, a Chief Constable, and eight constables.

Eight extra constables are also employed as night watchmen in the City of Hamilton and two in the Town of St. George, and there are altogether 21 parish constables who are elected in the several parishes.

The cost of the Police Establishment in 1900 was:—

	£
Salaries (inclusive of salaries of three Police Magistrates	2,050
Other charges	90
	£2,140

One fourth of the net cost of the regular police establishment is paid by the Townships of Hamilton and St. Georges and parish of Sandys, between which places the regular force is distributed.

(B.)—PRISONS.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 48 (46 males and two females). Of these, five were committed for safe custody

till trial, or for want of security, and 43 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols is 1900 was £1,264.

(C.)—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 254, a decrease compared with 1899 of 69, and with 1898 of 144.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the Magistrates was 215, of whom 144 were summarily convicted, 46 discharged for want of evidence, 19 acquitted, and six committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 144 persons summarily convicted, 97 were fined, seven imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 19 peremptorily imprisoned, three bound over to keep the peace, and 18 discharged after conviction without punishment.

Fifteen cases were tried in the Superior Courts during the year, and the convictions numbered five. Of these three were for offences against the person and two for offences against property.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.)—POPULATION.

The Registrar-General estimated the resident civilian population of these Islands at the end of 1900 at 16,645, comprising 6,347 white (3,127 males and 3,220 females) and 10,298 coloured persons (4,749 males and 5,549 females).

Compared with the figures of the last census (taken in 1891) the total population shows an estimated increase of 1,632.

The birth rate was 36.3 and the death rate 21.3 per 1,000. The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 15.7 to 100 births.

(B.)—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The state of the public health during the year 1900 was very satisfactory.

The average strength of the Imperial Forces in Bermuda in 1900 was 3,243, and the deaths numbered 24, the rate of mortality thus being about 7 per 1,000.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. Average strength of the European Garrison 632;

non-European, 775. Number of admissions to the hospital, 658. Ratio of admission per 1,000 of strength—European, 369; non-European, 548. Number of deaths—European, 3; non-European 18. Average number of daily sick 43.63. Average strength of officers, 55; cases of sickness, 8; deaths, none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 317, 43 less than during 1899. The most prevalent diseases were venereal affections, diseases of intestines, diseases of the skin, enteric fever, and heart disease. There were three deaths.

(D.)—METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, show as follows:—Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30.120 inches; mean temperature of the air, 69.9 degrees; mean relative humidity, 79.1 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8.4 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 67.03 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 5.74 inches more; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 197.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The total Revenue of the Post Office in 1900 was £4,493, compared with a revenue of £4,367 in 1899. The expenditure was £4,315, compared with £4,261 in 1899.

The net revenue from the Post Office in 1900 was thus £177.

The Post Office has for some years been more than self-supporting, a steady growth in the revenue owing to increasing transactions having more than counterbalanced the losses arising from reductions in postage.

The Inland Telegraph Service, which is under the control of the military, provides telegraphic communication between the principal parts of the Colony. An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private Company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which Companies are under subsidy from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world through Halifax on the one hand and Turks Islands and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Islands and Jamaica in 1898.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary	2,199
Military establishments	146,280

Compared with 1899 the latter return shows a decrease of £9,347.

The expenditure on the Naval Establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular military forces at Bermuda in 1900 was 1,407, and the average strength of the naval forces 1,856.

Return of Militia.—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 365 officers and men: and the Submarine Miners Engineer Militia, 43 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers.—Bermuda Rifle Volunteer Corps, 319 officers and men.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. James Harvey Trimingham, a Member of the House of Assembly, was admitted as a Member of the Executive Council in January.

Mr. Alison, Colonial Secretary, left the Colony on the 10th May on leave of absence, and resigned on the expiration of his leave on the 5th November.

Mr. Allan F. Smith, Colonial Postmaster, acted as Colonial Secretary from the 10th May until the end of the year.

On the 28th May Mr. S. Brownlow Gray, C.M.G., Attorney-General, was appointed Chief Justice in the room of Sir Josiah Rees, deceased, and Mr. Reginald Gray was appointed Attorney-General.

Colonel J. W. A. Marshall, West India Regiment, administered the government of the Colony from the 22nd August to the 13th October, during the absence on leave of His Excellency the Governor.

Mr. S. S. Ingham, a Member of the Legislative Council, died on the 3rd September.

IMMIGRATION.

During the past few years a steady tide of immigration has been flowing into this little Colony from the West Indies.

A large number of mechanics and labourers are employed in connection with extensive improvements which are being made both at the Dockyard and in the Military barracks and fortifications. This has created a greater demand for labourers than the Colony could supply, and coloured labourers from the West Indies have found their way here to the estimated number of 1,600, of whom over 800 have arrived during the past three years.

The labour market, however, does not appear to be overstocked at present, the rate of wages having kept up in spite of the keener competition for employment thus created.

Until the works referred to are brought to a completion it is not probable that any difficulty will be experienced, but it is realised there is a danger that when the works referred to are finished and a large number of men in consequence thrown out of employment, the supply of labourers will exceed the demand under the normal conditions of the labour market.

PROGRESS AND PRESENT CONDITION OF THE COLONY.

In concluding this Report it may be interesting, as the year 1900 is the last year of the century, to show the progress of the Colony during the latter half of the century by a comparison of figures illustrative of its present economic conditions with those for the years 1875 and 1850.

In 1850, with a civilian population of 11,092, the imports amounted to £130,541, and the exports to £19,960. In 1875, with a population of 13,302, the imports amounted to £244,486, and the exports to £61,253. In 1900, with a population of 16,645, the imports amounted to £397,136, and the exports to £93,769. In 1850 the total tonnage of vessels entered and cleared was 62,344, in 1875 it was 129,699, and in 1900 it was 729,832.

In 1850 Bermuda was little known to the outside world, and but for the fact that the Imperial Government maintained military and naval establishments here, the inhabitants would have been in a condition of almost absolute social isolation.

In 1875 the first regular direct steam communication with New York had recently been established, and a great expansion of trade with the United States ensued owing to a demand for the produce of the Colony in the New York market, and with the means of communication established the attractions of Bermuda as a winter resort soon became known to the people of the United States and Canada, and the number of tourists and others comprising the transient population has since steadily increased until the annual number is now estimated to have reached 3,000.

The altered social conditions which have thus been brought about form a striking contrast to those which previously existed.

The present condition of the Colony is prosperous in spite of the depression in agricultural interests which has from time to time occurred, and with the several resources referred to in the foregoing report the people of the Colony have a hopeful outlook for the future.

I have, &c.,

ALLAN F. SMITH,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency,

Sir GEORGE DIGBY BARKER, K.C.B.,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief,

Bermuda.

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1901.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 354.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1901.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 322.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1902.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :--

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
327	Bahamas...	1900
328	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
329	Malta	"
330	Straits Settlements	"
331	Fiji	"
332	St. Lucia...	"
333	Seychelles	"
334	Falkland Islands	"
335	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
336	British New Guinea	1899–1900
337	Leeward Islands	1900
338	Trinidad and Tobago	"
339	British Honduras	"
340	Hong Kong	"
341	Ceylon	"
342	Gibraltar	"
343	Basutoland	1900–1901
344	Gold Coast	1900
345	Grenada	"
346	Northern Nigeria	1900–1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900–1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900–1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand...	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas...	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla...	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas...	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.

No. 354.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 322.)

GOVERNOR SIR H. GEARY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Bermuda, 28th April, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1901, which has been prepared by Mr. Hutson, the Colonial Secretary.

The Blue Book will be forwarded at an early date.

I have, &c.,

H. LE G. GEARY,

Lieutenant-General,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

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BERMUDA, 1901.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Bermuda, 5th April, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1901:—

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.)—GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Revenue for the year amounted to £51,436, being in excess of the Revenue for 1900, which was £40,124, by £11,312.

The following tables compare the Revenue and Expenditure for 1901 with that for 1900:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1900...	32,394	7,730	40,124
1901...	39,253	12,153	51,436
Increase ...	6,859	4,453	11,312

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1900	17,734	29,798	47,532
1901	19,002	19,638	38,640
Increase ...	1,268	—	—
Decrease ...	—	10,160	8,892

The increased Revenue received during 1901 was to a large extent due to the large importations of food-stuffs, malt liquor, &c., owing to the presence in the Colony during six months of the year of the prisoners of war and an extra regiment forming

their guard, and also to the increased circulation of money following the commencement of the Dockyard Extension Works. The receipts under the head of Customs show an increase over those of 1900 of £6,859. Malt Liquor shows an increase of £1,739; Tobacco, £395; Post Office, £1,163. There was also a repayment of a loan amounting to £2,000 to the Treasury from the Savings Bank.

There was an increase under every heading of Revenue, except that from import tax on Bicycles, Landing Tax on Spirits in Bulk, and Fines of Court.

The Expenditure amounted to £38,640, showing a decrease of the Expenditure as compared with that for 1900 of £8,892. As explained in the Blue Book Report for 1900, an amount of £6,000 was refunded to the Savings Bank by the Treasury in 1900, and there was also a temporary loan to the Savings Bank of £2,000. The amount of decrease of normal expenditure in 1901 as compared with the normal expenditure of the preceding year was £892. Agriculture shows a decrease of £1,072; Legislative a decrease of £666; Post Office a decrease of £1,078; Pilotage a decrease of £112. On the other hand, there was an increase of expenditure under several headings, the most prominent being:—Immigration, £53; Interest, £121; Judicial, £262; Library, £220; Miscellaneous Payments, £683; Public Health, £384; Registration of Births, &c., £31.

(B.)—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1897	35,965	35,704
1898	38,923	39,102
1899	39,955	39,243
1900	40,124	47,532
1901	51,436	38,640

(C.)—ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The Assets of the Colony at the end of 1901 amounted to	£19,781
The Liabilities on the same date amounted to	5,354
Showing a balance of	£14,427

(D.)—PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt at the end of 1901 amounted to £49,200, made up as follows:—

Local Inscribed Stock	£45,500
New Government House Debentures ...	3,700

On £40,000 of the Local Inscribed Stock the rate of interest is 4½ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first-mentioned sum was raised in 1893-4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The Stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The sixth annual instalment of £1,000 payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the Sinking Fund created in connection with the loan was remitted to London for investment last year.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting St. George's with the main Island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by a hurricane which passed over the Islands on the 13th September, 1899. Instalments amounting to £450 towards the Sinking Fund to be created in connection with this loan have been remitted to London for investment. The Stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

The average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is 4⅜ per cent. The original amount of the debt was £11,600, and it is being paid by the appropriation of £500 per annum from the general revenue for the redemption of debentures to the last-mentioned amount.

Under authority of a Resolve of the local Legislature, dated the 19th November, 1901, tenders were invited for the reduction of the Public Debt by purchasing and cancelling Bermuda Government securities to the extent of £6,000. It was only found practicable to reduce the debt by £2,000. The transaction was not completed until January of the present year, and the reduction of the debt by that amount is not, therefore, shown in the return for 1901.

All of the loans referred to were raised locally.

(E.)—CURRENCY.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government Bank, and there is no paper money in circulation, with the exception of a very limited number of Bank of England notes. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two private Banks, one of which, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, was incorporated by a local Act in 1889.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments in the Colony, issues Bills of Exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.)—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The value of the Imports (exclusive of specie valued at £25,650, and Government stores valued at £243,716) in 1901 was £500,716.

Compared with 1900 this shows an increase of £103,580.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1897 to 1901 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1897 ...	323,074	95,424	24,550	6,517	195,167	1,416
1898 ...	351,274	104,974	30,611	7,346	205,308	3,305
1899 ...	394,388	104,408	33,119	7,238	246,447	3,176
1900 ...	397,136	104,009	31,488	9,932	250,729	978
1901 ...	500,716	142,911	41,167	11,399	296,937	8,302

In the above figures the value of Government stores—civil, naval, and military—is not included. The estimated quantity of such stores imported into the Colony during 1901 was 30,891 tons, valued at £243,716. The value of the total Imports into the Colony during the year, inclusive of Government stores and specie, was £770,082.

From the above comparative statement of the last five years it will be seen that there was a considerable increase of Imports during the year from all countries as compared with 1900. The total increase, exclusive of specie and Government stores, was £103,580, and the increase from different countries was as follows:—United Kingdom, £38,902; Canada, £9,679; other British Colonies, £1,467; United States of America, £46,208; other countries, £7,324. It is fair to state that the contractors

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engaged in the Dockyard Extension Works imported machinery during the year to the value of £8,000 from the United Kingdom and £6,668 from Buenos Ayres.

The year 1901 was an abnormal one for the Colony as regards the quantity of Imports and commercial prosperity. The large increase of business generally was mainly due to the commencement of the large extension works at His Majesty's dockyard and to the arrival in the Colony of the prisoners of war and the regiment forming their guard.

The increase of Imports from the United Kingdom is mainly due to larger importations of clothing, cotton goods, fancy goods, oilmen's stores, machinery, malt liquor, and coals; that from the Dominion of Canada to larger importations of butter, hay, oats, and potatoes; that from the United States of America to larger importations of beef, coal, cotton goods, flour, lumber, provisions, and oxen and cows.

The principal Imports from the United Kingdom in 1901, compared with 1900, were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
	£	£
Clothing	8,499	5,064
Cotton goods	16,390	10,972
Fancy goods	4,114	3,457
Oilmen's stores	10,419	8,200
Silk goods	2,021	5,587
Sugar	5,192	5,275
Woollen goods	9,360	16,948
Machinery	10,376	161
Metal manufactures	6,078	1,037
Coals	15,983	—
Malt liquor	23,131	854
Whiskey	3,198	3,326
Wine	2,687	2,462
Hardware	2,781	1,922

The principal Imports from Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
	£	£
Box material	3,673	3,351
Butter...	3,589	3,300
Fish	2,901	3,396
Flour	1,756	1,148
Horses...	2,400	710
Bran	1,279	1,105
Cheese...	1,482	608
Hay	1,889	1,518
Leather manufactures	2,230	931
Oats	3,345	3,092
Lumber	1,270	966
Potatoes	4,705	3,650
Paper	1,096	735

The principal Imports from the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
	£	£
Beef	11,728	6,109
Bran	4,457	3,166
Butter...	12,368	12,554
Coal	12,495	4,684
Cotton goods...	10,345	8,692
Fertilizers	5,797	5,060
Fancy goods	2,877	1,988

The principal Imports from the United States—*cont.*

Article.	Value. 1901.	Value. 1900
	£	£
Flour	18,242	15,257
Canned fruit and meats	7,164	8,250
Groceries	6,760	6,167
Hardware	6,122	7,533
Leather manufactures	11,725	11,460
Lumber	9,643	8,813
Kerosene oil	6,771	7,034
Oats	7,008	6,286
Provisions	21,314	17,635
Oxen and cows	36,121	29,622
Sheep	3,169	3,823
Sugar	5,827	5,374

Exports.

The value of the Exports (exclusive of specie valued at £6,152) in 1901 was £98,479.

Compared with 1900 this shows an increase of £4,710, but a decrease by £10,152 on the average of the preceding five years.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1897 to 1901 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1897 ...	123,082	3,519	1,640	1,213	116,294	416
1898 ...	106,104	4,041	2,138	1,835	97,847	943
1899 ...	119,151	2,063	2,535	1,875	111,638	1,040
1900 ...	93,769	4,683	2,071	1,299	85,599	117
1901 ...	98,479	3,333	1,036	3,456	90,654	—

The principal Exports to the United Kingdom in 1901, compared with 1900, were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
	£	£
Arrowroot	1,655	2,242
Bulbs	662	560
Hides	618	844
Tallow...	574	534

The principal Exports to Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
	£	£
Hides	183	291
Onions...	172	447

The principal Exports to the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1901.	1900.
	£	£
Bulbs	7,634	11,382
Onions...	48,597	43,039
Potatoes	25,224	25,207
Miscellaneous vegetables	1,986	2,515

The marked decrease in the value of bulbs shipped to the United States was due to a short crop. Prices were good.

BERMUDA, 1901.

The onion crop was fully up to the average in quantity, but prices were very low owing to the large quantity kept in cold storage in the United States.

(B.)—MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

There are no mines.

Manufactures.

There is an ice factory which manufactures most of the ice locally consumed.

There are two arrowroot factories, one of which, recently established, is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this valuable commodity.

The cultivation and manufacture of arrowroot, which were at one time important industries in this Colony, have, from various causes, greatly declined in recent years. The arrowroot produced in the Colony by the latest approved methods is of an excellent quality, and there is a good opening for investment of a limited capital in this industry.

Fisheries.

It is to be regretted that some organised attempt is not made to develop the fishing industry of this Colony, in the waters of which fish abound in many varieties. During certain months of the year large numbers of flying-fish are found in the adjacent waters around the coast. This fish forms a staple article of food in the Island of Barbados during certain months of the year, and a large fleet of boats is employed in the industry. These fish can be caught with little labour, and an organised fishery, with sufficient capital, would supply the local demand for fish, which is usually much beyond the supply, and reduce the cost of fresh fish, which is at present high. As stated in the last Blue Book Report, the fishing industry of this Colony is not engaged in to any extent by any class of the community as an exclusive means of livelihood, but is carried on by the labouring population to supplement their means of subsistence during the summer months, when there is little or no demand for agricultural labourers. Experienced fishermen could be imported, if necessary, and there is no reason why this Colony should not supply the American market with a large quantity of fresh fish. Red snapper are known to abound on the various banks around these Islands, and this fish is well known in the American market.

Some attention might also be bestowed on the cultivation of lobsters (palinurus), oysters, and other shell fish, such as scallops (pecten).

A Natural History Society has recently been formed in this Colony, and, should means be provided for research and experiments in the line indicated, it is possible that useful and sufficient data will be supplied to warrant an experiment being made on industrial lines.

(C.)—AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The production of onions and potatoes for the New York market is the chief agricultural industry, which has been carried on with varying success for many years. In 1901 the onion crop was a good one, but the prices low. Attempts are being made to introduce the Bermuda onion to the English markets, the Legislature having voted £1,000 during 1901 to encourage shipments to the United Kingdom. Little or no success attended a previous experiment and expenditure of money for this purpose, and it is feared that the cost of production and transport will prevent the Bermuda onion from competing with the Egyptian and other cheap onions in the English markets.

The potato crop of 1901 was a short one, owing to blight. Prices were fairly good and above the average.

The culture of lily bulbs for export ranks next in importance, and under favourable conditions is a remunerative industry. The lily crop was a small one in 1901, owing to an unfavourable season—the bulbs suffered from the protracted drought. Prices were good. There is still a good demand for bulbs in the usual markets, and the cultivation is again increasing steadily, and it is hoped that the output will reach its former limit. Farmers are taking care to plant good, healthy bulbs after careful selection.

THE PUBLIC GARDEN.

The public garden, which is supported as an experimental agricultural station, is under the control and management of the Board of Agriculture. The Legislature has, since the date of its establishment, voted liberal supplies for its up-keep. During 1901 the extensive green-houses were completed, and provision has been voted for an increased water supply. The Superintendent conducted many useful experiments during the year, although he was heavily handicapped by the exceptional and severe drought during the summer months. Besides endeavouring to teach the farmers how to improve their staple produce, and to combat the many pests that attack their crops, the Superintendent is striving to find some crop for the months during which the land is at present allowed to remain fallow which will prove remunerative without unduly exhausting the land.

BERMUDA, 1901.

(E.)—SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1901, in comparison with 1900, is shown in the following table:—

Shipping Entered and Cleared.

	1901.			1900.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	689,471	20,324	709,795	566,563	12,556	579,119
American	12,094	28,161	40,255	7,456	9,453	16,909
Austrian	7,440	—	7,440	21,080	—	21,080
Belgian	5,142	—	5,142	—	—	—
Danish	16,032	—	16,032	6,396	1,320	7,716
Dutch	8,072	—	8,072	—	—	—
French	6,428	652	7,080	—	—	—
German	32,174	1,492	33,666	34,721	—	34,721
Greek	3,572	—	3,572	—	—	—
Italian	35,014	1,310	36,324	33,278	—	33,278
Norwegian ...	25,714	3,509	29,223	12,180	728	12,908
Portuguese ...	3,242	—	3,242	—	—	—
Russian	—	370	370	—	1,905	1,905
Swedish	—	1,826	1,826	—	—	—
Spanish	30,214	—	30,214	17,784	—	17,784
Uruguayan ...	—	—	—	4,412	—	4,412
Totals ...	874,609	57,644	932,253	703,870	25,962	729,832

The increase in the tonnage of vessels entered and cleared shown by the above figures was brought about chiefly by the number of military transports conveying prisoners of war to the Colony, the tonnage of which amounted to 29,749 tons, and also by the arrival of steamers bringing machinery and stores for the Dockyard Extension Works. There was also an increase

in the number of vessels calling at these Islands for coals, and on account of stress of weather. The number of steamships and sailing vessels that called at Murray's anchorage at St. George's for coals and supplies during the year was 140, and the tonnage was 135,574, as compared with 115,674 in 1900. Should the proposed inter-oceanic canal at the Isthmus of Panama be built, it is likely that there will be a large increase in the number of ships calling at Bermuda.

Shipping Entered and Cleared for last Five Years.

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons.
1897	300,954	45,584
1898	409,751	62,205
1899	483,430	85,349
1900	579,119	150,713
1901	709,795	222,458

III.—LEGISLATION.

Forty Acts were passed during 1901. Eight of the measures were consolidating Acts, three of which were consolidating and amending Acts.

No. 5.—The Alien Act, 1901. This measure amends the law of the Colony to give effect to a Convention entered into between the United Kingdom and the United States of America relative to the disposal of real and personal property.

No. 15.—The Court Act, 1901. This measure increases the fees to be paid to the Assistant Justices of the Court of General Assize.

No. 18.—The Victoria Day Act, 1901. This measure enacts that the 24th day of May in every year shall be set apart as a public holiday, to perpetuate the memory of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria.

No. 26.—The Speedy Trials Act, 1901. This measure enacts that every prisoner may, with his own consent, be tried by the Court of General Assize at a special criminal session without a jury. The criminal offences triable under the Act include any crime which is not a felony, and any misdemeanour the punishment for which is imprisonment with or without hard labour,

BERMUDA, 1901.

or a fine, forfeiture, or penalty, with or without the alternative of imprisonment.

No. 29.—The Financial System Act, 1901. This measure made provision for the appointment of an officer to prepare a scheme for the reorganization of the financial system of the Colony.

No. 35.—The Civil Service Superannuation Act, 1901. This measure amends the law of the Colony relating to the superannuation of public officers, by recognizing the services of officers who entered the public service prior to the 1st January, 1894, the date of the commencement of the operation of the original Act. Those public officers concerned have been given the option of paying up the contributions that would have been deducted from their salaries had the Act been in operation, to enable them to count the whole of their service for superannuation.

No. 39.—The Police Establishment Act, 1901. This measure provides for the re-organization and increase of the police force and the substitution of rural police constables appointed by the Governor for parish constables elected annually by the parishioners.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of School furnishes the following returns:—

Twenty-two aided primary schools, with 1,266 scholars (655 boys and 611 girls); school fees, £499; Government contributions, £1,064. Three aided secondary schools, with 114 scholars (71 boys and 43 girls); school fees, £337; Government contributions, £139.

In addition to two garrison schools and one dockyard school, there are about 30 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are four secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School for white boys, the Collegiate Institute for coloured boys and girls, and the Convent School and High School for white girls, all of which are situated in or near the city of Hamilton.

A Centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations was established in Bermuda in 1891.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.)—HOSPITALS.

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government. There is a cottage hospital near the city of Hamilton, which is supported by voluntary contributions.

Hospitals are maintained in connection with the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments.

(B.)—LUNATIC ASYLUM.

An asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in this Colony in 1846.

During the year certain alterations were made to the building used by the male inmates to improve the sanitary condition of a certain number of cells. These alterations have proved most satisfactory in every way.

The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants.

Four patients (males) were admitted into the asylum in 1901. Two patients were discharged. The daily average number of patients was 45 (24 males and 21 females).

(E.)—SAVINGS BANK.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1901, was 1,655, having an aggregate sum of £38,023 to their credit, as compared with 1,486 depositors in 1900, having £35,338 to their credit.

The last audited statement (to 30th June, 1901) shows the liabilities of the Bank on that date to be £37,853.

The assets of the Bank on the same date amounted to £34,674, consisting of investments in British Consols, £32,503, and cash to the amount of £2,171.

(F.) FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The number of Friendly Societies on the Register on 31st December, 1901, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS

(A.)—POLICE.

The regular police force consists of a superintendent, a chief constable, and eight constables.

Eight extra constables are also employed as night watchmen in the city of Hamilton and two in the town of St. George, and there are altogether 21 parish constables who are elected in the several parishes.

BERMUDA, 1901.

The cost of the police establishment in 1901 was:—

Salaries (inclusive of salaries of three Police Magistrates)	£2,052
Other charges	72
	£2,124

One-fourth of the net cost of the regular police establishment is paid by the townships of Hamilton and St. George and parish of Sandys, between which places the regular force is distributed.

Under the provisions of "The Police Act, 1901," which has not yet become law, the police force is to consist of an inspector, three chief constables, and fifteen constables, and the present parish constables, who are elected annually by the parishioners, are to be replaced by rural constables appointed by the Governor. A sum not exceeding £300 per annum is also to be placed at the disposal of the Governor for the employment of detectives when necessary.

(B.)—PRISONS.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 87 (83 males and four females). Of these, 35 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 32 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1901 was £1,309.

(C.)—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 315, an increase, compared with 1900, of 61, and a decrease, compared with 1899, of 8.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 304, of whom 217 were summarily convicted, 29 discharged for want of evidence, 43 acquitted, and 15 committed for trial in the Superior Courts.

Of the 217 persons summarily convicted, 164 were fined, 10 imprisoned in lieu of fine or surety, 34 peremptorily imprisoned, 1 was whipped, 1 bound over to keep the peace, and 7 discharged after conviction without punishment.

Twenty-one cases were tried in the Superior Courts during the year, and the convictions numbered 10. Of these, 6 were for offences against the person, and 3 for offences against property.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.)—POPULATION.

At the Census taken on the 31st March, 1901, the resident civilian population was returned as 17,535 persons, the white population numbering 6,383 (3,149 males and 3,234 females), the coloured 11,152 (5,457 males and 5,695 females).

Compared with the figures of the last Census, taken in 1891, the total population shows an estimated increase of 2,522.

The Registrar-General estimates that the natural increment of the civilian population between the time of the taking of the Census on the 31st March, 1901, and the end of the year was 204, and that the excess of immigration over emigration for the same period was 742. He, therefore, estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1901 consisted of 18,481 persons. The estimated total population, including the Naval and Military Establishments and the prisoners of war, was 26,589 persons.

The birth-rate was 34·7, and the death-rate 21·8 per 1,000.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 15·4 to 100 births.

(B.)—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The state of the public health during the year was good.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1901 was 3,723; the deaths were 21; the rate of mortality thus being about 5·6 per 1,000.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. The average strength of the European garrison was 1,014, non-European 707. Number of admissions to hospital 897. Ratio of admissions per 1,000 of strength—European 605·52, non-European 400·28. Number of deaths—European 13, non-European 5. Average number of daily sick 70·23. Average strength of officers 169; cases of sickness 27; deaths none. The large increase of sickness and deaths among the European garrison was, to a large extent, if not entirely, due to malarial fever contracted in South Africa. These troops arrived in the Colony as guard to the prisoners of war.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 287. There were three deaths.

The average daily mean strength of the naval forces in the Colony during the year 1901, corrected for the time each ship remained in port, was 2,002. This included 789 men employed in the dockyard.

(D.)—METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, show as follows:—Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·033 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70·3 degrees; mean relative humidity, 79·4 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 9·4 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 62·61 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 2·21 inches more; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 224.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The total revenue of the Post Office in 1901 was £5,733, compared with a revenue of £4,493 in 1900. The expenditure was £4,535, compared with £4,315 in 1900.

The net revenue from the Post Office in 1901 was thus £1,198.

The Post Office has for some years been more than self-supporting, a steady growth in the revenue owing to increasing transactions having more than counterbalanced the losses arising from reductions in postage. The increase in correspondence is mainly due to the steady immigration into this Colony from the West Indies during the last few years.

POSTAL SERVICE.

The sum of £2,952 was paid out in the Colony on Money Orders from abroad, as compared with £1,946 in 1900.

The amount paid into the Post Office on account of Money Orders for abroad during the year was £18,005, as compared with £12,751 in 1900. A large proportion of this money was sent by West Indian labourers working in this Colony to their families in the West Indies. These Money Orders amounted to £8,780, those to the United Kingdom £6,960. The number of letters dealt with during the year was 907,258, and the parcels 8,112. The Parcel Post service has increased considerably. The Bermuda Government pays a subsidy of £750 for the conveyance of mails between the Colony and New York, and subsidies amounting to £500 for conveyance of mails between the Colony and Halifax, N.S., Jamaica, Turks Islands, and the West Indies.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

The inland telegraph service, which is under the control of the military, provides telegraphic communication between the principal parts of the Colony. An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which companies are under subsidy from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world through Halifax on the one hand, and Turks Islands and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Islands and Jamaica in 1898. The Company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George for the use of the public.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary	2,199
Military establishments	207,847

Compared with 1900 the latter return shows an increase of £61,567.

The expenditure on the naval establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular military forces at Bermuda in 1900 was 1,721, and the average strength of the naval forces 2,002.

Return of Militia.—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 359 officers and men, and the Submarine Miners Engineer Militia, 40 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers.—Bermuda Rifle Volunteer Corps, 319 officers and men.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

Mr. Eyre Hutson, appointed to succeed Mr. Alison as Colonial Secretary, arrived in the Colony on the 16th July.

Mr. Allan F. Smith, Colonial Postmaster, acted as Colonial Secretary from the 1st January to the 15th July.

BERMUDA, 1901.

Mr. Thomas S. Reid, Mayor of Hamilton, was appointed to the Legislative Council on the 16th September, in the room of Mr. S. S. Ingham, deceased.

The Hon. F. W. Major, Receiver-General, was appointed, on the 16th November, to report on the financial administration of the Colony.

The Hon. R. D. Darrell was appointed an Assistant Justice of the Court of General Assize, *vice* Hon. T. N. Dill, resigned.

IMMIGRATION.

During the year 1901 the number of immigrants that arrived in these Islands from the West Indies was abnormally high. The Immigration Officer at Hamilton estimates the number to have been 795. Of these, 118 returned to the West Indies, or left the Colony temporarily. 148 Italians were also imported from the Argentine as labourers by the contractors for the Dockyard Extension Works.

The total number of immigrants for the year is estimated at 1,002, and the increase of immigration over emigration at 884.

The demand for labourers and mechanics still keeps up.

The high rate of wages was maintained during the year in spite of the large increase in the supply of labourers and mechanics.

I have &c.,

EYRE HUTSON,

Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency

Sir Henry Le Guay Geary, K.C.B.,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief,

Bermuda.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE.
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1902.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 383.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1902.

(For Report for 1901 *see* No. 354.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
May, 1903.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
365	Bahamas	1901–1902
366	Fiji	1901
367	Ceylon	"
368	Barbados	1901–1902
369	Hong Kong	1901
370	Cocos Islands	1902
371	St. Helena	1901
372	British Solomon Islands	1901–1902
373	Jamaica	"
374	Leeward Islands	"
375	Gold Coast	1901
376	Grenada	"
377	Northern Nigeria	"
378	British Guiana	1901–1902
379	Mauritius	1901
380	Basutoland	1901–1902
381	Southern Nigeria	1901
382	Trinidad...	1901–1902

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Wei-Hai-Wei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.

No. 383.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1901, *see* No. 354.)

GOVERNOR SIR H. LE G. GEARY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

Bermuda,

2nd April, 1903.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1902, which has been prepared by Mr. Hutson, the Colonial Secretary.

The Blue Book will be forwarded at an early date.

I have, &c.,

H. LE G. GEARY,

Lieut.-General, Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

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875 Wt 21109 5/1903 D & S 5 14478

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Bermuda,

31st March, 1903.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1902:—

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.)—GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The Revenue for the year amounted to £56,666, being in excess of the Revenue for 1901, which was £51,436, by £5,230.

The following tables compare the Revenue and Expenditure for 1902 with that for 1901:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1901	39,253	12,153	51,436
1902	46,985	9,681	56,666
Increase	7,732	—	5,230
Decrease	—	2,472	—

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1901	19,002	19,638	38,640
1902	19,062	33,246	52,308
Increase	60	13,608	13,668

The increased Revenue received during 1902 was due to the large importations of food-stuffs, malt liquor, spirits, and cigars and cigarettes. The presence in the Colony, during ten months of the year, of the prisoners of war, and an extra regiment forming their guard, and also the large amount of money paid in wages locally in connection with the Dockyard Extension Works, led to these large importations. The receipts under the head of Customs shew an increase over those of 1901 of

£7,732. Malt liquor shews an increase of £2,419; other spirits, £1,024; tobacco, £674; cigars and cigarettes, £571; ad valorem 5 per cent. duty, £2,260.

The Expenditure amounted to £52,308, shewing an increase of the Expenditure, as compared with that for 1901, of £13,668. The Receiver-General has pointed out that although £5,230 is shewn as increased Revenue for 1902 as compared with 1901, the increase is really £7,230, owing to the fact that during 1901 £2,000 was repaid to the Treasury by the Savings Bank, and this amount was included in the Revenue returns for that year, and should be omitted in comparing the Revenue for the two years as derived from taxation. There has been a steady increase in Revenue received from ad valorem duty since 1898, the total increase in the five years being £9,326.

The increase of Expenditure during 1902 was caused principally by the payment to the Savings Bank of interest due to depositors, which amounted to £4,838; expenses of Coronation celebration; increased expenditure on roads; the paying off of £2,000 of the Public Debt, under authority of Resolve No. 21 of 1902; and increased drawback of duty in connection with the imports for the Extension Works at the Dockyard.

Notwithstanding the large increase of expenditure in 1902, and the payment during the last three years of £10,838 from the Treasury to the Savings Bank, the cash in hand on the 31st December, 1902, was £24,139.

(B.)—Revenue and Expenditure for the Last Five Years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1898	38,923	39,102
1899	39,955	39,243
1900	40,124	47,532
1901	51,436	38,640
1902	56,666	52,308

(C.)—Assets and Liabilities.

	£
The Assets of the Colony at the end of 1902 amounted to	24,139
The Liabilities on the same date amounted to	4,250
Shewing a balance of ...	£19,889

(D.)—Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the end of 1902 amounted to £46,600, made up as follows:—

	£
Local Inscribed Stock	45,500
New Government House Debentures ...	1,100

On £40,000 of the Local Inscribed Stock the rate of interest is 4¼ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first-mentioned sum was raised in 1893-4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The Stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The seventh annual instalment of £1,000 payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the Sinking Fund created in connection with the loan, was remitted to London for investment last year.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the Causeway connecting St. George's with the main Island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by a hurricane in September, 1899. Instalments amounting to £750 towards the Sinking Fund to be created in connection with this loan, have been remitted to London for investment. The Stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

The average rate of interest on the Government House Debentures is 4⅜ per cent. The original amount of the debt was £11,600, and it is being paid by the appropriation of £500 per annum from the general revenue for the redemption of debentures to the last-mentioned amount. Under the authority of Resolve No. 21 of 1901, debentures to the extent of £2,000 were redeemed in 1902.

All of the loans referred to were raised locally.

(E.)—Currency.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government Bank, and there is no paper money in circulation, with the exception of a very limited number of Bank of England notes. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two private Banks, one of which, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, was incorporated by a Local Act in 1889.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments in the Colony, issues Bills of Exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these Bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.)—Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the Imports (exclusive of specie valued at £40,021, and Government Stores valued at £215,027) in 1902 was £546,141.

Compared with 1901, this shews an increase of £45,425.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1898 to 1902 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1898 ...	351,274	104,974	30,611	7,346	205,308	3,305
1899 ...	394,388	104,408	33,119	7,238	246,447	3,176
1900 ...	397,136	104,009	31,488	9,932	250,729	978
1901 ...	500,716	142,911	41,167	11,399	296,937	8,302
1902 ...	546,141	155,675	52,110	13,523	321,487	3,346

In the above figures the value of the Government stores—civil, naval, and military—is not included. The estimated quantity of such stores imported into the Colony during 1902 was 14,616 tons, valued at £215,027. The value of the total Imports into the Colony during the year, inclusive of Government stores and specie, was £801,189.

The principal Imports from the United Kingdom in 1902 compared with 1901, were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1902.	1901.
	£	£
Clothing	10,326	8,499
Cotton Goods...	16,883	16,390
Fancy Goods	5,796	4,114
Canned Fruit and Meats	3,032	—
Oilmen's Stores	12,079	10,419
Silk Goods	2,813	2,021
Sugar	2,386	5,192
Woollen Goods	14,757	9,360
Machinery	2,787	10,376
Metal Manufactures...	3,616	6,078
Coals	9,670	15,983
Malt Liquor	27,436	22,131
Whisky	4,130	3,198
Wine	2,729	2,687
Hardware	1,551	2,781

The principal Imports from Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1902.	1901.
	£	£
Box material	2,001	3,673
Butter...	7,169	3,589
Fish	3,985	2,901
Flour	3,266	1,756
Horses	1,687	2,400
Bran	2,157	1,279
Cheese	2,404	1,482
Hay	2,188	1,889
Leather manufactures	1,313	2,230
Oats	6,139	3,345
Lumber	651	1,270
Potatoes	4,681	4,705
Paper	619	1,096

The principal Imports from the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1902.	1901.
	£	£
Beef	27,371	11,728
Bran	3,904	4,457
Butter	11,525	12,368
Coal	5,183	12,495
Cotton Goods...	10,636	10,345
Fertilizers	6,357	5,797
Fancy Goods...	2,341	2,877
Flour	22,024	18,242
Canned fruit and meats	8,117	7,164
Groceries	9,224	6,760
Hardware	5,493	6,122
Leather manufactures	13,171	11,775
Lumber	8,650	9,643
Kerosene oil	7,272	6,771
Oats	5,251	7,008
Provisions	23,923	21,314
Oxen and cows	36,926	36,121
Sheep	3,169	3,419
Sugar	4,797	5,827
Tobacco	2,812	1,827

Exports.

The value of the Exports (exclusive of specie valued at £8,477) in 1902 was £111,135.

Compared with 1901 this shews an increase of £12,656, and an increase by £3,018 on the average of the preceding five years.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1898 to 1902 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1898 ...	106,104	4,041	2,138	1,835	97,847	943
1899 ...	119,151	2,063	2,535	1,875	111,638	1,040
1900 ...	93,769	4,683	2,071	1,299	85,599	117
1901 ...	98,479	3,333	1,036	3,456	90.654	—
1902 ...	111,135	6,328	1,753	2,202	100,730	122

The principal Exports to the United Kingdom in 1902, compared with 1901, were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1902.	1901.
	£	£
Arrowroot	789	1,055
Bulbs	3,908	662
Hides	450	618
Tallow...	413	574

The principal Exports to Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1902.	1901.
	£	£
Hides	187	183
Onions...	521	172

The principal Exports to the United States were: —

Article.	Value.	
	1902.	1901.
	£	£
Bulbs	17,131	7,634
Hides	1,377	652
Onions...	46,992	48,597
Potatoes	30,287	25,224
Miscellaneous vegetables	1,955	1,986

(B.)—Mines, Manufactures, and Fisheries.

There are no mines.

Manufactures.

There is an ice factory which manufactures most of the ice locally consumed.

There is one arrowroot factory which is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this valuable commodity.

The manufacture of arrowroot, which was at one time an important industry in this Colony, has declined in recent years. The arrowroot produced in the Colony by the latest approved methods is of an excellent quality.

Fisheries.

The condition of this industry is the same as when the last Report was written. No attempt has been made to organise a fishing industry. There is still a deplorable lack of fresh fish offered for sale at prices which would enable it to become a common and staple article of food for all classes, as is the case in most of the neighbouring Colonies.

(C.)—Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets, are the chief agricultural industries of these Islands. The principal market is that of New York. A limited quantity of ordinary kitchen garden produce is shipped to meet the demand for such products in New York in the early part of the year. This latter industry is capable of being enlarged were better facilities offered for the transport of produce to the market referred to.

The Legislature placed at the disposal of the Board of Agriculture during the past year the sum of £1,000 to encourage the export of produce to the United Kingdom and to markets other than those of the United States. The Board offered bonuses to any shippers who produced satisfactory evidence that Bermuda produce had been exported by them and sold on such markets. Little advantage was taken of the offer.

The Superintendent of the Public Garden during a visit to the United States and Canada during the autumn on special duty, reported that there is a good opening for the sale of certain Bermuda produce in some of the markets of Canada, and there would appear to be good grounds for believing that, by judicious exploitation, these markets would become valuable ones for this Colony. The Board of Agriculture had, prior to the receipt of the report of the Superintendent of the Public Garden, given the matter their consideration, but no definite plan, beyond that mentioned above, had up to the end of the year been formulated to encourage the export of produce direct to the Canadian markets.

The potato crop for the year was unusually small, owing to "blight." The prices for this produce may be considered fair. The onion crop was an average one. Prices were low at the beginning of the season but improved, and good prices maintained, until the close of the season.

Much difficulty was experienced during the year in obtaining a sufficient quantity of onion seed at the usual sowing time, and a large proportion of that planted did not germinate. The scarcity of seed was attributed to a failure of the seed crop in Teneriffe.

The lily crop was a large one. There was a large demand for Japanese bulbs in the United States owing, it is believed, to a report spread in the usual markets that the Bermuda crop would not meet the demands that would be made on it. Good prices were obtained, however, for Bermuda bulbs, and were maintained throughout the season. A large quantity of bulbs were, however, not put on the market, and were replanted to supply the crop for 1903.

The Public Garden.

The Public Garden, which is supported as an experimental agricultural station, is under the control and management of the Board of Agriculture. The Legislature has, since the date of its establishment, voted liberal supplies for its up-keep.

Experiments in new crops and in the growing of onions for seed purposes were conducted during the year. The Superintendent, at the instance of the Board of Agriculture, visited the United States, during the autumn, with a view to studying the method of cultivation and curing of tobacco. It is proposed to endeavour to encourage the cultivation of tobacco as

a summer crop. An attempt was made by the Superintendent during the year to instruct school teachers and others in the elementary principles of agriculture, by lectures given at the Public Garden. It is hoped to secure good results by the use of specially prepared text books, and by holding out inducements to persons to attend these lectures.

(E.)—Shipping.

The total number of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1902, in comparison with 1901, is shown in the following table:—

Shipping Entered and Cleared.

	1902.			1901.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	562,193	12,294	574,487	689,471	20,324	709,795
American	5,896	11,752	17,648	12,094	28,161	40,255
Austrian	17,874	—	17,874	7,440	—	7,440
Belgian	—	—	—	5,142	—	5,142
Danish	—	—	—	16,032	—	16,032
Dutch	3,100	—	3,100	8,072	—	8,072
French	4,106	—	4,106	6,428	652	7,080
German	25,540	2,406	27,946	32 174	1,492	33,666
Greek	—	—	—	3,572	—	3,572
Italian	15,556	2,006	27,946	35,014	1,310	36,324
Norwegian ...	22,240	6,018	28,258	25,714	3,509	29,223
Portuguese ...	3,250	—	3,250	3,242	—	3,242
Russian	—	630	630	—	370	370
Swedish	—	2,058	2,058	—	1,826	1,826
Spanish	11,498	—	11,498	30,214	—	30,214
Total ...	671,253	37,164	708,417	874,609	57,644	932,253

Shipping Entered and Cleared for last Five Years.

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons.
1898	409,751	62,205
1899	483,430	85,349
1900	579,119	150,713
1901	709,795	222,458
1902	574,487	133,930

III.—LEGISLATION.

There was a special Session of the Legislature convened on the 2nd of April, 1902, and which was prorogued on the 16th of the same month. No legislation was passed during this Session.

The regular Session of the year commenced on the 2nd of June, and was prorogued on the 22nd of December.

Sixty-one Acts were passed during 1902, the volume of legislation exceeding that of any previous year. There were eight consolidating measures passed in view of the preparation of a new compilation of the Laws of the Colony, and there was one amending and consolidating Act.

No. 3. The Immigration Act, 1902. This Act was the outcome of the recommendations made by a Joint Committee of the Legislature to consider what amendments it was desirable to make to the Immigration Acts, 1898-1900. Its provisions were intended to check immigration of unsuitable persons. This Act was amended and added to by Act No. 17 of the same Session.

No. 5. The Public Treasury Act, 1902. This measure provides for the opening of an account on behalf of the Government in the two leading local Banks, and for the deposit of the surplus cash in the Treasury in the Bank of Bermuda.

No. 9. The Light Railway Survey Act, 1902. This measure was passed to give the War Department authority to make a survey for a light military railway.

No. 10. The Partnership Act, 1902. This measure which is a transcript of the Imperial Statute, 53 & 54 Vict., Ch. 39, is a valuable addition to the Statute Book of the Colony.

No. 18. The Public Works Department Act, 1902. This measure provides for two additional officers to the Colonial Surveyor's Department, so as to admit of increased supervision over the Public Works and Roads.

No. 19. The Compilation of Laws Act, 1902. This measure authorised the preparation of a new compilation of the Laws of the Colony.

No. 41. The Savings Bank Act, 1902. This measure provides for the reduction of the rate of interest allowed to depositors in the Savings Bank from 2½ to 2 per cent.

No. 51. The Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks Act, 1902. This measure supplies a long felt want on the Statute Book of the Colony.

No. 53. The Roads Improvement Act, 1902. This measure authorises a large increase of the annual grant for expenditure on the roads of the Colony, over a period of six years from the 1st of July, 1903.

No. 56. The Savings Bank Act (No. 2), 1902. The main object of this measure is to wipe out the part indebtedness of the Bank to the Treasury to start the Savings Bank afresh, and to endeavour by means of temporary advances from the Treasury for a limited period to enable the Bank to become self-supporting.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—

Twenty-two aided primary schools, with 1,299 scholars (670 boys and 629 girls); school fees, £556; Government contributions, £1,145. Three aided secondary schools, with 110 scholars (73 boys and 37 girls); school fees, £377; Government contributions, £147.

In addition to three garrison schools and one dockyard school, there are about 25 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys; the Berkeley Institute, for coloured boys and girls; the Convent School and High School for white girls, all of which are situated in or near the city of Hamilton; and the Sandys High School, for coloured boys and girls.

Thirty-six candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last from the Bermuda Centre—9 seniors, 9 juniors, and 18 preliminary students. Of these candidates, 23 passed—4 seniors, 8 juniors, and 11 preliminary.

At the request of the House of Assembly the Governor appointed a Commission on the 20th of December, 1902, to inquire into the working of the Schools Act, the condition and accommodation of the school houses, the remuneration of teachers, and other matters connected with the education of the youth of the Colony.

In connection with the intelligence received in the Colony during the year that, by the will of the late Right Honourable Cecil John Rhodes, one annual scholarship had been established at the University of Oxford for students from Bermuda, the Governor reported to the Secretary of State on the 20th December, 1902, that "a number of the principal people of the Colony had met together to consider what steps could be taken to improve the conditions of secondary education for white boys. It was decided at the first meeting that the promoters should concentrate their efforts on establishing a first class school at some central point in the Colony, and that they should endeavour to obtain control of a Foundation which already existed but which admittedly needed improvement. The Foundation consists of buildings and land

in the Parish of Pembroke vested in a public body called Body No. 1 of the Devonshire College Trustees. This property is now rented by certain trustees for executing the terms of a bequest in the will of a Mr. Samuel Saltus, who are at the present time in the possession of funds calculated to amount to £14,000. The movement has been attended with great success. The promoters of the scheme, in addition to obtaining the ready co-operation of the trustees named above, who have placed the income of the Trust funds entirely at the disposal of the promoters, have raised a fund by which the sum of £1,100 per annum has been guaranteed towards the support of the new school for six years. Steps will shortly be taken to obtain funds for the improvement of the school buildings and property. It is to be hoped that this praiseworthy attempt of the people to better the educational conditions now existing will meet with the success it deserves."

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.)—Hospitals.

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government. There is a Cottage Hospital near the city of Hamilton which is supported by voluntary contributions. During the year the Legislature made a grant of £400 to the hospital to enable the Governors of the Institution to complete an isolation ward which was urgently needed.

Hospitals are maintained in connection with the Imperial naval and military establishments.

(B.)—Lunatic Asylum.

An asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in the Colony in 1846.

During the year certain alterations were made to the building set apart for the female inmates with a view to improving the sanitary condition of a certain number of cells.

The Medical Officer of Health is the medical superintendent of the Institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants.

Eleven patients (8 male, 3 female) were admitted into the asylum in 1902. Seven patients were discharged. The daily average number of patients was 49 (26 males and 23 females).

It is proposed to invite the Legislature to make provision for increasing the accommodation on the male side of the asylum to meet the growing demands on the Institution.

(E.)—Savings Bank.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1902, was 1,803, having an aggregate sum of £39,563 to their credit, as compared with 1,655 depositors in 1901, having £38,023 to their credit.

The amount of invested funds of the bank on 31st December, 1902, was £36,235 10*s.* 4*d.*

By Act No. 41 of 1902, the rate of interest allowed on deposits from 1st January, 1903, was reduced from 2½ per cent. to 2 per cent.

A comparison of the transactions of the bank for the past three years shows a steady increase of business during the period.

(F.) Friendly Societies.

The number of Friendly Societies on the register on 31st December, 1902, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS

(A.)—Police.

Up to the 31st of May, 1902, the regular Police Force consisted of a superintendent, a chief constable, and eight constables.

There were in addition eight extra constables employed as watchmen in the city of Hamilton, and two in the town of St. George, and there were altogether twenty-one parish constables elected in the several parishes.

On the 1st of June, 1902, "The Police Act, 1901," came into operation, providing the following force:—

One inspector, 3 chief constables, and 15 regular police constables.

Under this Act the election of parish constables was abolished, and provision was made for the appointment by the Governor of 21 rural police constables.

The salary of the inspector was fixed at £150, rising to £200 per annum, and the rate of salaries of all grades of the Force was increased. The efficiency and usefulness of the Police Force has increased correspondingly. The Bermudian is, as a rule, a law-abiding and peaceful citizen; but there must be instances in which the absence of police supervision leads to non-observance of the law, and during the latter half of 1902 there have been more than the usual number of prosecutions before the police magistrates.

The cost of the police establishment in 1902 was:—

	£
Salaries (inclusive of salaries of three police magistrates) - - - -	2,264
Other charges - - - - - -	154
	£2,418

(B.)—Prisons.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 137 (131 males and 6 females). Of these, 60 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 77 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1902 was £1,571.

(C.)—Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 492, an increase, compared with 1901, of 177, and with 1900, of 238.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 464, of whom 375 were summarily convicted, 25 discharged for want of evidence, 46 acquitted, and 18 committed for trial in the Superior Courts.

Of the 375 persons summarily convicted, 265 were fined, 19 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 71 peremptorily imprisoned, one bound over to keep the peace, and 19 discharged after conviction without punishment.

Twenty-five cases were tried in the Superior Courts during the year, and the convictions numbered 22. Of these, 6 were for offences against the person, and 11 for offences against property.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.)—Population.

At the Census taken on the 31st of March, 1901, the resident civilian population was returned at 17,535 persons, the white population numbering 6,383 (3,149 males and 3,234 females), the coloured 11,152 (5,457 males and 5,695 females).

The Registrar-General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1902 consisted of 19,030

persons. The estimated total population, including the naval and military establishments, was 23,794 persons.

The birth-rate was 34·8, and the death-rate 22·3 per 1,000.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 19·04 to 100 births.

(B.)—Public Health.

The state of the public health during the year was good.

The number of cases of enteric fever during the year was considerably above the average. The Health Authorities have taken steps which it is hoped will minimize the possibility of a recrudescence of the disease.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1902 was 4,764; the deaths were 24, the rate of mortality thus being about 5·03 per 1,000.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. The average strength of the European garrison was 2,051; non-European, 683. Number of admissions to hospital, 1,171. Ratio of admissions per 1,000 of strength—European, 579; non-European, 436. Number of deaths—European, 18; non-European, 1. Average number of daily sick—European, 77·33; non-European, 22·78. Average strength of officers, 107; cases of sickness, 35; deaths none. The large increase of sickness among the European garrison was, to a large extent, due to the prevalence of enteric fever.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 313. There were five deaths.

The average daily mean strength of the naval forces in the Colony during the year 1901, corrected for the time each ship remained in port, was 2,030. This included 810 men employed in the dockyard.

(D.)—Meteorological Observations.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, show as follows:—Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·065 inches; mean temperature of the air, 69·6 degrees; mean relative humidity, 81·8 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 9·6 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 89·24 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 29·28 inches more; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 213.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

There are 20 post offices in the Colony and three money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office in 1902 was £6,223, compared with a revenue of £5,733 in 1901. The expenditure was £4,806, compared with £4,535 in 1901.

The net revenue from the post office in 1902 was thus £1,417, as compared with £1,198 in 1901.

For some years past there has been a steady growth in the revenue of the Post Office. The increase in correspondence is no doubt due to the reductions in postage and to the increase of the civil population and the military establishment.

Postal Service.

The sum of £5,261 was paid out in the Colony on money orders from abroad, as compared with £2,952 in 1901.

The amount paid into the Post Office on account of money orders for abroad during the year was £22,668, as compared with £18,005 in 1901. A large proportion of this money was sent by West Indian labourers working in this Colony to their families in the West Indies. These money orders amounted to £9,381; those to the United Kingdom, £11,244. The number of letters dealt with during the year was 1,010,500; post cards, 62,700; newspapers, 250,500; book packets and circulars, 63,509; and parcels, 9,637. The parcel post service has increased considerably; in fact, the transactions of the Post Office Department have exceeded those of any previous year, and a great deal of responsibility and work has been thrown on the staff, which is a small one.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The inland telegraph service, which is under the control of the military, provides telegraphic communication between the principal parts of the Colony. The revenue returned for the year was £12 3*s.* 3*d.*, and the expenditure, £348.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which companies are under subsidy from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world through Halifax on the one hand, and Turks Islands and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Islands and Jamaica in 1898. The company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George's for the use of the public.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary - - - - -	2,199
Military establishments - - -	344,598

Compared with 1901 the latter return shows an increase of £136,751.

The expenditure on the naval establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular military forces at Bermuda in 1902 was 2,734, and the average strength of the naval forces, 2,030.

Return of Militia.—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 365 officers and men, and the Submarine Miners Engineer Militia, 43 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers.—Bermuda Rifle Volunteer Corps, 319 officers and men.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Civil Establishment.

General Sir George Digby Barker, K.C.B., left Bermuda on the 30th of January, and Colonel A. L. Bailey, 1st West India Regiment, administered the Government from that date to the 1st February, when Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Le Guay Geary, K.C.B., arrived in the Colony and assumed the administration of the Government.

Mr. Ormond T. Middleton, barrister-at-law, was appointed Solicitor-General vice the Hon. R. D. Darrell, resigned.

Provision was made by the Legislature during the year for the appointment of the following additional public officers:—

Junior clerk in the Colonial Secretary's office;

Junior clerk in the Receiver-General's office; and

Junior clerk in the Colonial Surveyor's office.

Superintendent of Roads.

None of the offices were filled before the 31st of December, 1902.

The Hon. Reginald Gray, Attorney-General, left the Colony on the 29th of November on leave of absence on special duty

in connection with the compilation of the laws of the Colony. Mr. Ormond T. Middleton, Solicitor-General, acted as Attorney-General from the 29th of November until the end of the year.

Immigration.

During the first half of the year 1902 large numbers of immigrants from the West Indies continued to arrive in the Colony. The majority of them found employment at the Extension Works at the dockyard.

The passage of a more stringent Immigration Act, which came into operation on the 22nd of May, 1902, and by which immigrants are compelled to hand over to the immigration officer the sum of £10 for deposit in the Savings Bank in the name of the immigration officer, has had the effect of checking the immigration into the Colony.

The immigration officer at Hamilton, which is the principal port of disembarkation, estimates that the number of West Indian coloured immigrants who arrived in the Colony during 1902 was 597. There were 29 Portuguese in addition, and 18 of other nationalities. The total number of immigrants for the year is therefore estimated at 644, as compared with 1,002 in 1901. The increase of immigration over emigration is estimated at 311.

There is still a strong demand for labourers, and the high rate of wages, both for common labourers and for mechanics, has been maintained.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year under review has been a very prosperous one for the Colony, and the outlook for the next three or four years at least is a bright one. The large works which are in progress at the dockyard, and those in connection with the military establishment have had a considerable effect on the spending powers of the labouring classes, and the addition to the military establishment of a second regiment on the station has also caused an impetus to business generally. The agricultural prospects of the Colony are not as bright as one would wish them to be, but there are evident indications that the farmers are alive to the necessity of improving the quality of their produce and of taking steps to combat and eradicate the various pests that attack their crops.

During the year, continued attention was given to the suggested scheme for the improvement of the entrance to

St. George's Harbour with a view to providing, principally, a safe port of call and coaling station during the winter months of the year. Proposals were also put forward for the building of a light military railway to run from St. George's at the eastern end of the Islands to Somerset at the western extremity. These works, if undertaken, will entail large expenditures of money, and should add materially to the general prosperity of the Colony.

The winter tourist business is undoubtedly one of the most valuable of the Colony's assets. It has been realised to be such by individual members of the community and lately by the local press, who have endeavoured to direct attention to the lack of inducements which are held out to tourists to visit these Islands. There has been, apparently, a lack of public interest in the matter. This apparent apathy is perhaps due to the want of a statement of facts with regard to this valuable asset of the Colony, and thus public attention has not been specially directed to the matter.

An attempt has been made to obtain reliable statistics with regard to the tourist trade, but a disinclination on the part of some to give information has prevented the presentation of a complete statement. The business is only in its infancy, as compared with what is possible if the opportunities are improved.

The tourist business should not only bring, as it does now, increased business to the merchants and hotels of these Islands, but it should materially increase the incomes of farmers by providing a lucrative home market for truck gardening, poultry raising, and dairy supplies, and it should cause a more general awakening of public spirit and enterprise.

The people of Bermuda have at their door the means for conserving and increasing the reputation of these Islands as a winter resort, and it is being brought home to them that neighbouring British Colonies, such as the Bahamas and Jamaica, and the Islands of Porto Rico and Cuba, are putting forward great efforts to attract tourists.

During the season of 1902, the number of winter guests at hotels and boarding houses is estimated to have been about 2,000.

It is estimated that the average amount expended by each visitor to these Islands during the season, exclusive of *bonâ fide* hotel expenses, may be put down at £25. It may be estimated, therefore, that during the last season £50,000 was thus put in circulation locally.

The number of persons employed by the two largest hotels during the season was 233, and the wages paid to them amounted to $20,681.00 or £4,308.

The money spent by two of the largest livery stables during the season in wages and for fodder amounted to about £3,000.

No particulars are forthcoming with regard to the various small hotels and boarding houses, and to many livery establishments, nor is it possible to show the value of the large purchases made during the season by the hotels from local wine merchants, grocers, and butchers.

A moderate estimate of the amount put in circulation by tourists during the last season is £70,000.

I have, &c.,

EYRE HUTSON,

Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency

Sir Henry Le Guay Geary, K.C.B.,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief,

Bermuda.

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1903.

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No. 418.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1903.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 383.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1904.

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No. 418.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1902, *see* No. 383.)

GOVERNOR SIR R. M. STEWART to MR. LYTTELTON.

Government House,
Bermuda,
6th May, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1903, which has been prepared by Mr. Hutson, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,
R. M. STEWART,
Major-General, Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

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Colonial Secretary's Office,
Bermuda,
3rd May, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1903:—

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £57,169, being in excess of the revenue for 1902, which was £56,666, by £503.

The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1903 with that for 1902:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1902	46,985	9,681	56,666
1903	45,995	11,174	57,169
Increase	—	1,493	503
Decrease	990	—	—

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1902	19,062	33,246	52,308
1903	19,949	35,554	55,503
Increase	887	2,308	3,195

The return of revenue for the year under review shews that there was an increase in the gross receipts over those in 1902 amounting to £503. These receipts, which amounted to £57,169, were made up as follows:—

—	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Ad valorem Duty	21,460 18 7
Specific Duty	24,533 19 7
Other Receipts	11,174 17 3
Total...	57,169 15 5

Refunds of duty amounting to £1,949 were made during the year, being drawback of duty on goods supplied to His Majesty's naval and military establishments, and on goods exported, and sundry small refunds of duty paid in error.

Heads of Increase.

The receipts of revenue shew an increase over those of 1902 in the following items:—

—	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Poultry (dead)	120	16	9
Cigars and Cigarettes	553	18	0
Eggs	109	4	1
Horses	40	0	0
Spirits	106	18	5
Wines	171	1	10
Landing Tax	1	0	0
Auction Duty	8	8	3
Fees of Office	46	5	0
Fines of Court	38	19	0
Miscellaneous Receipts	292	17	3
Postal Revenue	476	13	5
Reimbursements to Government.	882	12	3

Heads of Decrease.

Decreases appear in the following items:—

—	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ad valorem Duty	336	1	6
Arrowroot	1	15½	5
Bananas	97	10	0
Bicycles	26	5	0
Malt Liquor	488	9	11
Oxen and Cows	120	0	0
Rum	287	7	1
Tobacco and Snuff	734	18	3
Immigration	55	12	0
Lighthouse Tolls...	180	0	5
Rents	16	11	8

The Receiver-General, in his report on the Revenue Department for the year under review, states as follows:—

"The foregoing figures cannot but be regarded as highly satisfactory. The receipts have far exceeded my expectations, as I looked for a considerable falling off in the revenue in view of the removal of the Boer prisoners of war during the year 1902 and the early part of 1903. It will be seen that whilst there has been a falling off in certain customs receipts, the

falling off has not been general. The increase in the Post Office revenue is worthy of note in view of the reduction in the rates of money order commissions in the early part of the year. The transactions of this department would appear to be steadily increasing. The payment to the Treasury of certain monies referred to in this report under the head of 'Deposits' accounts for the large amount received during the year under the head of 'Miscellaneous Receipts.' The increase under the head of 'Reimbursements to Government' is largely due to the repayment to the Treasury by the Board of Agriculture of £600 17*s.* 11*d.*, amount recovered by sales of produce shipped to Canada, out of amount drawn from the Treasury of £970.

"I think I am justified in saying that there is every prospect of the revenue keeping up during the coming year; that at any rate should there be no large reduction of the naval and military forces stationed here, no considerable shrinkage of the receipts need be looked for."

Expenditure.

Increases appear in the following items: —

—	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Colonial Secretary	97	10	0
Receiver-General...	210	0	6
Colonial Surveyor	3,701	14	8
Agriculture	963	15	6
Annuities...	188	8	2
Clerk to Audit Board	17	3	10
Educational	201	11	0
Gaols	814	16	4
Judicial	681	10	4
Library	223	11	0
Lunatic Asylum	74	1	3
Lighthouses	161	11	11
Loans	1,000	0	0
Miscellaneous Payments ...	1,294	10	2
Post Office	493	16	10
Police	529	13	9
Pilotage	51	0	0
Registration	6	5	0
Superannuation	275	17	7

Heads of Decrease :—

Debt, Public	2,600	0	0
Duty, Refund of...	520	0	3
Ecclesiastical	365	0	0
Immigration	89	12	11
Interest...	65	3	4
Legislative	552	0	10
Public Health	331	4	9
Rents	1	4	0
Savings Bank	3,267	4	9

The Receiver-General reports that "the large increase under the head of 'Colonial Surveyor' is due principally to increased expenditure on roads, provision for which was made by Act No. 53 of 1902.

"That under 'Agriculture,' to expenditure on account of shipments of Bermuda produce to Canada.

"'Gaols.'—Increased expenditure consequent on a larger number of persons imprisoned in the gaols of the Colony during the year, and rise in price of articles supplied for dieting. Part of the amount expended was recovered from the Imperial Government and from Messrs. C. H. Walker & Co., contractors, for maintenance of their employees undergoing imprisonment.

"'Judicial,' to the expenses attendant on the trial of C. V. Monk for libel.

"'Miscellaneous Payments,' to the expenses attendant on the compilation of laws and the Attorney-General's visit to England in connection therewith, and to the first payment of £520 made on account of the Watford Island Bridge.

"'Post Office,' to an increase of staff, purchase of postage stamps of the new issue and increased general expenditure.

"'Police.'—Increase of expenditure consequent on the reorganisation of the department.

"The other items of increase do not call for any special note, being due partly to the increase of the staff of the Colonial Secretary and Receiver-General, and partly to the number of officers superannuated, and partly to increased general expenditure necessary to meet the growing wants of the Colony.

"Of the items of decrease, that of 'Debt, Public' appears because of the abnormal expenditure under this head in the year 1902, owing to the purchase by the Government of Local Treasury Debentures, in reduction of the Public Debt of the Colony, and to the fact that under the terms of the debentures outstanding in 1903, debentures to the value of only £100 could be redeemed during that year.

"'Ecclesiastical'—The reduction in the grant-in-aid of the churches of various denominations in the Colony.

"'Duty, Refund of'—Due principally to decrease in refund of duty on supplies to His Majesty's Government, in consequence of removal of Boer prisoners of war.

"'Interest'—Decrease of interest payable in consequence of the calling in of debentures in 1902.

"'Immigration'—Decrease in amount of fees paid to Immigration Officer on account of fewer immigrants.

"'Legislative'—Delay in payment to contractor of expense of reporting and publishing the debates of the House of Assembly in consequence of non-fulfilment of contract.

"'Public Health'—Reduction in number of vessels calling at these Islands, and consequent decrease in fees to health officers and expense of boat hire.

"'Rents'—The absence of claim for rent of Pembroke Glebe land taken for naval purposes.

"'Savings Bank'—Abnormal expenditure in 1902 in final settlement between the Colony and the Bank."

Notwithstanding an increase of expenditure for the year ended 31st December last, the cash balance in hand at that date was £25,805, as compared with £24,139 at the same date in the previous year, and there was a surplus of revenue over actual expenditure of £2,665.

(B.) Revenue and Expenditure for the last Five Years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1899	39,955	39,243
1900	40,124	47,532
1901	51,436	38,640
1902	56,666	52,308
1903	57,169	55,503

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony at the end of 1903 amounted to	£26,805
The liabilities on the same date amounted to ...	3,369
Shewing a balance of ...	£23,436

(D.) Public Debt.

The public debt at the end of 1903 amounted to £46,500, made up as follows:—

Local Inscribed Stock	£45,500
New Government House Debentures ...	1,100

On £40,000 of the Local Inscribed Stock the rate of interest is 4½ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first-mentioned sum was raised in 1893-4 for the

purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton harbour. The stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The eighth annual instalment of £1,000, payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the sinking fund created in connection with the loan, was remitted to London for investment last year.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting St. George's with the main Island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by a hurricane in September, 1899. Instalments, amounting to £1,050, towards the sinking fund to be created in connection with this loan, have been remitted to London for investment. The stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

The average rate of interest on the Government House Debentures is $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. The original amount of the debt was £11,600, and it is being paid by the appropriation of £500 per annum from the general revenue for the redemption of debentures to the last-mentioned amount.

All of the loans referred to were raised locally.

(E.) Currency.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government Bank, and there is no paper money in circulation, with the exception of a very limited number of Bank of England notes. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two private banks, one of which, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, was incorporated by a Local Act in 1889.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial naval and military establishments in the Colony, issues bills of exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

The Colonial Government keeps a current account with the Bank of Bermuda and with the bank of Messrs. N. T. Butterfield & Son to the extent of a maximum deposit of £4,000 at each bank, against which deposits the banks give security to the full maximum amount.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £30,000, and Government stores valued at £224,704) in 1903 was £539,688.

Compared with 1902 this shews a decrease of £6,453.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1899 to 1903 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1899 ...	394,388	104,408	33,119	7,238	246,447	3,176
1900 ...	397,136	104,009	31,488	9,932	250,729	978
1901 ...	500,716	142,911	41,167	11,399	296,937	8,302
1902 ...	546,141	155,675	52,110	13,523	321,487	3,346
1903 ...	539,688	172,347	65,637	9,457	289,239	3,008

In the above figures the value of the Government stores—civil, naval, and military—is not included. The estimated quantity of such stores imported into the Colony during 1903 was 2,683 tons and 1,081 packages, valued at £224,704. The value of the total imports into the Colony during the year, inclusive of Government stores and specie, was £794,392.

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1903, compared with 1902, were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1903.	1902.
	£	£
Clothing	16,304	10,326
Cotton Goods...	17,363	16,883
Fancy Goods...	4,391	5,796
Canned Fruit and Meats	1,950	3,032
Oilmen's Stores	14,612	12,079
Silk Goods	1,955	2,813

Principal Imports from the United Kingdom—cont.

Article.	Value.	
	1903.	1902.
	£	£
Sugar	2,340	2,386
Woollen Goods	10,140	14,757
Machinery	4,616	2,787
Metal Manufactures...	7,246	3,616
Coals	17,073	9,670
Malt Liquor	29,366	27,936
Whisky	4,360	4,130
Wine	4,005	2,729
Hardware	2,116	1,551
Building Material	8,772	6,961
Drugs	2,112	2,528
Earthenware	1,273	1,099
Glassware	1,900	1,736
Stationery	1,484	2,296
Jewelry	5,220	3,353

The principal imports from Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1903.	1902.
	£	£
Box Material...	3,695	2,001
Butter...	11,230	7,169
Fish (Preserved)	4,220	3,985
Flour	3,647	3,266
Horses	1,242	1,687
Bran	2,531	2,157
Cheese	3,384	2,404
Hay	3,819	2,188
Leather Manufactures	1,130	1,313
Oats	8,390	6,139
Lumber	591	651
Potatoes	4,624	4,681
Paper	906	619

It is pleasing to note the increase under almost every heading of imports from Canada. The total imports for the year amounted to £65,693, as against £52,131 in 1902, or a total increase for the year 1903 of £13,562.

The principal imports from the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1903.	1902.
	£	£
Beef	14,568	27,371
Bran	2,925	3,904
Butter	7,549	11,525
Coal	5,654	5,183
Cotton Goods...	10,415	10,636
Fertilizers	7,297	6,357
Fancy Goods...	2,369	2,341
Flour	16,806	22,024
Canned Fruit and Meats	9,277	8,117
Groceries	9,789	9,224
Hardware	5,540	5,493
Leather Manufactures	13,270	13,171
Lumber	8,813	8,650
Kerosene Oil	8,490	7,272
Oats	2,669	5,251
Provisions	23,681	23,923
Oxen and Cows	26,823	36,926
Sheep	4,042	3,169
Sugar	6,269	4,797
Tobacco	1,835	2,812
Building Material	4,721	3,794
Carriages	1,271	1,249
Cheese...	2,197	2,978
Clothing	4,571	4,751
Corn	5,464	6,785
Drugs	5,539	5,835
Furniture	3,500	3,529
Metal Manufactures...	5,229	5,335
Bicycles	2,341	1,828
Horses...	3,967	1,887

The total value of imports from the United States of America for the year was £290,587, as against £321,594 in 1902, or a decrease of £31,007, due chiefly to smaller importations of food-stuffs, provisions and oxen, consequent on the removal of the prisoners of war from the Colony.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie, valued at £6,973) in 1903 was £125,343.

Compared with 1902 this shews an increase of £14,208, and an increase by £9,626 on the average of the preceding five years.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1899 to 1903 inclusive:—

Comparative Table for the Five Years from 1899 *to* 1903.

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1899 ...	119,151	2,063	2,535	1,875	111,638	1,040
1900 ...	93,769	4,683	2,071	1,299	85,599	117
1901 ...	98,479	3,333	1 036	3,456	90 654	—
1902 ...	111,135	6,328	1,753	2,202	100,730	122
1903 ...	125,343	3,806	5,032	4,256	112,249	—

The principal exports to the United Kingdom in 1903, compared with 1902, were:—

Principal Exports to the United Kingdom in 1903, *compared with* 1902.

Article.	Value.	
	1903.	1902.
	£	£
Arrowroot	1,184	789
Bulbs	466	3,908
Hides	793	450
Tallow...	294	413

The principal exports to Canada were:—

Principal Exports to Canada.

Article.	Value.	
	1903.	1902.
	£	£
Hides	97	187
Onions...	1,375	521
Lily bulbs	126	16

The principal exports to the United States were:—

Principal Exports to the United States.

Article.	Value.	
	1903.	1902.
	£	£
Bulbs	8,000	17,131
Hides	829	1,377
Onions...	53,965	46,992
Potatoes	33,945	30,287
Miscellaneous Vegetables	2,943	1,955

In the value of exports returned for 1903 is included £7,881, the value of goods transhipped and shipped to His Majesty's ships on this station, which has hitherto not been shewn in the returns, and also the value of metal from H.M.S. "Scorpion," sold and exported, and the value of furniture, consequent on the removal of troops from the station, viz., £2,600; altogether an amount of £10,481.

The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £107,236, as against £106,776 for 1902. Of this, £2,882 was exported to the United Kingdom, £3,296 to British Colonies, and £101,058 to the United States of America.

(B.) Manufactures and Fisheries.

Manufactures.

There is an ice factory, which manufactures most of the ice locally consumed.

There is one arrowroot factory, which is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this valuable commodity.

The manufacture of arrowroot was at one time an important industry in this Colony. The arrowroot manufactured in the Colony by the latest approved methods is of an excellent quality and commands a good price in home and foreign markets. It is being placed on such markets at the present date in attractive packages, and in small quantities, with distinctive labels as to origin, and it is hoped that the demand for this excellent product will materially increase.

Fisheries.

There is no organised fishing industry in the Colony, although there would appear to be a considerable opening for providing not only the local markets with good fish, but also the New York market, where good prices could be secured.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets, is the chief agricultural industry of these Islands. The principal market is that of New York. A limited quantity of ordinary kitchen garden produce is shipped to meet the demand for such products in New York in the early part of the year. This latter industry is capable of being enlarged were ample facilities offered for the transport of produce to the market referred to. It is hoped that such facilities will be offered in the near future.

The Legislature placed at the disposal of the Board of Agriculture during the past year the sum of £1,000 to encourage the export of produce to markets other than those of the United States of America. It was decided to make shipments of onions throughout the season to the principal cities of Canada, and the leading dealers in such produce in those cities were selected as consignees, and a committee of the Board was appointed to superintend the purchase of onions. The shipments—2,650 crates of onions—were so made, at a cost of £970. The sales and all expenses connected therewith shewed an actual loss of £369 on the venture.

The Committee in their report state that in their opinion the loss was due to circumstances of a very unusual character, namely, the large quantity of native and other onions which were on the Canadian markets at the time the shipments were made, and that they have reason to believe that similar conditions are not likely to exist again, and they recommend that another effort should be made during the crop season of 1904.

The potato crop for 1903 was an average one. The quantities exported were as follows:—

49,262 barrels and 757 boxes, at a declared value of £34,579.

The quantities exported in the previous year were as follows:—

37,904 barrels and 55 boxes, at a declared value of £30,904.

The prices were low all through the season, especially during the "fall" crop.

The onion crop was an average one, and prices obtained were higher than during the previous year and were steadily maintained through the season.

The quantities and declared value of the export were as follows:—

255,811 crates and 95 barrels—declared value £55,620.

The quantities for the previous year were:—

234,122 crates and 127 barrels—declared value £47,712.

The lily crop was small and prices were very low. The crop was in the first instance under-estimated, and anticipated demands were not realized, causing a great fall in the prices eventually when large quantities were placed on the market.

10,650 packages were exported, at a declared value of £8,592, as against 8,274 packages of a declared value of £21,058 in 1902.

The Superintendent of the Public Garden in his report for the year 1903 states that about 25 per cent. to 40 per cent. of lily bulbs forced in the United States, according to reports received, failed to grow, and he alleges that these conditions are due to the attack of an insect which eats out the crown of the bulbs. He recommends the farmer to give special attention to the present state of this crop and also that no bulbs should be allowed to be returned to Bermuda that have been discarded by "forcers," except for scientific purposes. He points out that if the ruinous insect gets a good footing in these Islands the lily industry will be rendered unprofitable.

The falling off in value of lily bulbs exported during the year amounted to nearly £13,000 as compared with the value exported in 1902.

The export of arrowroot amounted to 9 tons 9 cwt., valued at £1,300, as against 11 tons 12 cwt. exported in 1902, valued at £1,347.

This return points to a rise in the price of Bermuda arrowroot, owing no doubt to increased demand for this excellent product.

There was an appreciable increase in the export of vegetables other than onions and potatoes: 23,696 packages, valued at £2,973, as against 15,179 in 1902, valued at £1,976.

A much larger quantity of green vegetables and market garden produce would probably be exported to New York were greater facilities offered for chill-room accommodation and were the rates of freight lower. At the present date the chill-room space on the regular trading steamers is controlled by one local firm.

The value of potatoes, onions and green vegetables exported during the year was £12,908 in excess of the value of such produce exported during 1902. This increase nearly counterbalanced the very large decrease in the value of bulbs exported.

(D.) The Public Garden.

The Public Garden, which is supported chiefly as an experimental agricultural station, is under the control and

management of the Board of Agriculture. The Legislature has since the date of its establishment in 1898 voted liberal supplies for its up-keep.

An experiment in the growing and curing of tobacco was conducted during the year. Efforts were made to induce individual farmers to grow small quantities as an experiment, the Board of Agriculture supplying the plants and fertilizers. By this means a fair amount was reaped for curing by the Superintendent of the Garden. The hurricane in September last not only destroyed some of the tobacco in the ground, but damaged the curing house, and thus decreased the anticipated crop and hampered the curing process. Nevertheless, some excellent samples of wrapping leaf were obtained, and some good filling leaf. A portion of the product has been forwarded to the Imperial Institute for analysis and report, and some of the tobacco has been made up locally into rolls, and the remainder will eventually be made up in cigars. This experiment, although proving that tobacco of apparently good quality can be grown in these Islands, will, I fear, not lead to a general cultivation of tobacco in Bermuda.

The Superintendent of the Garden during the year did good work in the examination of soils and of manures.

Several thousand panama-hat plants were raised from seed and distributed throughout the Colony. It remains to be seen whether these tropical palms, *Carludovica palmata*, will become established in these Islands.

Experiments in the production of onion seed were continued. The results have not been very satisfactory, but sufficiently so to justify the conduct of further experiments.

Several new kinds of potatoes were planted at the Garden as an experiment and useful results were obtained.

A silo was erected at the Garden, and it has been demonstrated successfully that the use of silos generally by the farmers of the Colony would be of material benefit to their stock during the dry summer months, when it is a difficult matter to obtain cheap fodder.

Other minor experiments in the cultivation of fruit and marketable crops were carried out during the year.

(E.) Shipping.

The total number of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1903, in comparison with 1902, is shewn on the following table:—

Shipping Entered and Cleared.

—	1903.			1902.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	463,468	17,617	481,085	562,193	12,294	574,487
American... ...	4,112	10,331	14,443	5,896	11,752	17,648
Austrian	7,984	—	7,984	17,874	—	17,874
Dutch	5,250	—	5,250	3,100	—	3,100
French	—	—	—	4,106	—	4,106
German	9,054	—	9,054	25,540	2,406	27,946
Italian	21,132	—	21,132	15,556	2,006	17,562
Norwegian ...	5,306	3,357	8,663	22,240	6,018	28,258
Portuguese ...	3,018	—	3,018	3,250	—	3,250
Russian	—	—	—	—	630	630
Swedish	—	—	—	—	2,058	2,058
Spanish	—	—	—	18,498	—	18,498
Total ...	519,324	31,305	550,629	679,253	37,164	716,417

Shipping Entered and Cleared for last Five Years.

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons
1899	483,430	85,349
1900	579,119	150,713
1901	709,795	222,458
1902	574,487	133,930
1903	481,085	69,544

III.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislature was convened on the 29th of May, 1903, and at the end of the year was still in session.

The comparatively small number of Acts passed was due to the fact that legislative work was interrupted by an unusually long session of the Court of General Assize.

Sixteen Acts were passed, of which the following may be taken as the most important:—

No. 2. The Wireless Telegraphy Act. This Act prohibits the installation of Wireless Telegraph apparatus in Bermuda without a license from the Governor.

No. 10. The Court Act. By this Act provision is made that the Criminal and Civil Sessions of the Court of General Assize are to be continued until all business which the Court may see fit to dispose of shall be concluded. By previous legislation each Session was limited in duration to a fortnight.

No. 11. The Public Officers' Bonds Act. This measure enables any public officer to give security by the bond of a Guarantee Company approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

No. 12. The Victoria Memorial Act. By this Act provision is made for the erection of a new Public Library and Museum to commemorate the reign of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria.

No. 14. The Gaols Act. This Act enables the Governor in Council to provide gaol accommodation in cases of emergency.

No. 16. The Bermuda Fire and Marine Insurance Company Act. This is an important private Act incorporating the above-named Company, with limited liability, to carry on a fire and marine insurance business in the Colony. The capital has all been subscribed locally, and the Company has met with great success. Considerable sums of money now paid in annual premiums to British and foreign Insurance Companies will thus be kept in the Colony.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—

Twenty-six aided primary schools, with 1,491 scholars (760 boys and 731 girls); school fees £517; Government contributions, £676. One aided secondary school, with 34 scholars (20 boys and 14 girls); school fees £36; Government contributions, £25.

In addition to three garrison schools and two military schools, there are about twenty other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are four secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys; the Berkeley Institute, for coloured boys and girls; the Convent School and High School for white girls; all of which are situated in or near the city of Hamilton.

The 26 aided primary schools referred to above are private schools aided by grants from the Colonial Treasury. Eight of them are attended by white children and conducted by white teachers, and eighteen are attended by coloured children under coloured teachers There are no free schools in the Colony, the average fee charged being 6d. per week. The Legislature provides an annual sum of £2,000 to aid in the working of the 26 schools referred to, and also in the working of one secondary school. This grant is administered by a Board of Education, presided over and appointed by the Governor. The aided schools are inspected regularly by an inspector of schools.

Thirty candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last for the Bermuda Centre, 4 seniors, 16 juniors, and 10 preliminary students. Of these candidates 16 passed—3 seniors, 9 juniors, and 4 preliminary.

The Commission appointed by the Governor on the 20th December, 1902, to inquire into the working of The Schools Act, the condition and accommodation of the schoolhouses, the remuneration of teachers, and other matters connected with the education of the youth of the Colony, presented their report in June, 1903.

The Commission recommended certain amendments to the provisions of The Schools Act, as relating to the constitution of the Board of Education, the constitution of the local parish boards, and also a large increase of the grant-in-aid of primary schools, and special grants in aid of certain secondary schools. The Commission also recommended that the Legislature should provide funds to enable the Board of Education to secure the provision of more suitable premises for such primary schools as the Board may consider necessary. The report of the Commission was presented to both House of the Legislature on the 19th August, 1903, but was not formally considered by either the House of Assembly or the Legislative Council during the year.

The Board of Education during the year provided special lectures to the primary school teachers on school management, and also on the elementary principles of agriculture. An examination in the first-named subject was conducted locally, and in the latter by an officer of the Imperial Department of Agriculture in the West Indies. Great interest was shewn by the teachers in both courses of lectures and the results of the examinations may be considered satisfactory. The Legislature, on the application of the Board of Education, provided a sum of £100 in addition to the usual educational grant to enable the Board to continue these lectures, and arrangements were made for one of the regular lecturers of the Imperial Department of Agriculture in the West Indies to visit Bermuda to deliver a special course of lectures on agriculture. The conditions under which scholarships under the provisions of the

will of the late Right Hon. Cecil J. Rhodes will be awarded to candidates in Bermuda, were not settled during the year.

The provisions of the will have induced a certain number of the leading gentlemen of the Colony to improve the status of the Saltus School, which is a secondary school aided to the extent of £300 to £400 a year from a private trust. The school is conducted in premises erected out of funds arising from the Devonshire College Trust. A fund has been guaranteed by leading gentlemen of the community under which £1,100 per annum outside of the revenue from the private trust will be available for the support of the school for six years.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government. There is a cottage hospital near the city of Hamilton, which is supported by voluntary contributions. During the year 1902 the Legislature made a grant of £400 to the hospital to enable the governors of the institution to complete an isolation ward, which was urgently needed.

Hospitals are maintained in connection with the Imperial naval and military establishments.

(B.) Lunatic Asylum.

An asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in the Colony in 1846.

During the year 9 cells were added to the building set apart for the male inmates.

The Medical Officer of Health is the medical superintendent of the institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants.

Nine patients (6 male, 3 female) were admitted into the asylum in 1903. Three patients were discharged. The daily average number of patients was 50 (28 males and 22 females).

(E.) Savings Bank.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1903, was 1,892, having an aggregate sum of £40,916 to their credit, as compared with 1,803 depositors in 1902, having £40,464 to their credit. The amount of deposits during the year was £17,232 as against £16,376 in 1902.

The amount of invested funds of the bank on 31st December, 1903, was £43,626 at par, equal to £38,390 at market value of consols on 31st December, 1903. The cash in the hands of the Receiver General and managers on 31st December, 1903, was £2,366.

By Act No. 41 of 1902, the rate of interest allowed on deposits from 1st January, 1903, was reduced from 2½ per cent. to 2 per cent.

A comparison of the transactions of the bank for the past three years shews a steady increase of business during the period.

(F.) Friendly Societies.

The number of Friendly Societies on the register on 31st December, 1903, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

Up to the 31st of May, 1902, the regular police force consisted of a superintendent, a chief constable, and eight constables.

There were in addition eight extra constables employed as watchmen in the city of Hamilton, and two in the town of St. George, and there were altogether twenty-one parish constables elected in the several parishes.

On the 1st of June, 1902, The Police Act, 1901, came into operation, providing the following force:—

One inspector, 3 chief constables, and 15 regular police constables.

Under this Act the election of parish constables was abolished, and provision was made for the appointment by the Governor of 21 rural police constables.

The salary of the inspector was fixed at £150, rising to £200 per annum, and the rate of salaries of all grades of the force was increased.

Under the provisions of Act No. 6 of 1903 seven constables have been added to the force, making the total number of regular constables on the establishment 22.

Under the provisions of The Police Act, 1901, the Governor is empowered to employ in any temporary emergency or for any special occasion, extra constables not exceeding twenty in

number, and may authorize the employment of an unlimited number of special constables, on the application of the inspector of police or other persons. Special constables are not remunerated from the public treasury.

The cost of the police establishment in 1903 was:—

	£
Salaries (inclusive of salaries of three Police Magistrates)	2,682
Other charges	266
Total	£2,948

(B.) Prisons.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 204 (197 males and 7 females), as against 137 (131 males and 6 females) in 1902. Of these, 40 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 164 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1903 was £2,386, as compared with £1,571 in 1902.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 724, an increase, compared with 1902 of 232, and with 1901 of 409.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 663, of whom 521 were summarily convicted, 59 discharged for want of evidence, 49 acquitted, and 34 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 521 persons summarily convicted, 335 were fined, 58 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 77 peremptorily imprisoned, 2 bound over to keep the peace, 44 discharged after conviction without punishment, and 5 whipped.

35 cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, and the convictions numbered 27. Of these 15 were for offences against the person, and 12 for offences against property.

The above returns shew a very large increase in crime in a very short period. It is evident that there has been an increase in offences committed, owing probably to the presence in the Colony of a large number of immigrants attracted from the West Indies chiefly by the extensive works in progress at His Majesty's Dockyard, Ireland Island. At the same time, I am of opinion that the large number of offences reported to the magistrates, and of persons apprehended and summoned before

magistrates, is due to the increased efficiency and activity of the police force following its recent reorganization. While it is to be regretted that the criminal statistics of the Colony for the year under review should compare so unfavourably in one sense with those of late years, it is likely that on the completion of the large public works now in progress the number of offences and apprehensions will materially decrease, and it is reassuring to realize that respect and obedience to the law of the Colony are being enforced.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

At the census taken on the 31st of March, 1901, the resident civilian population was returned at 17,535 persons, the white population numbering 6,383 (3,149 males and 3,234 females), the coloured 11,152 (5,457 males and 5,695 females).

The Registrar-General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1903 consisted of 19,455 persons, consisting of 6,693 white (3,329 males and 3,364 females) and 12,762 coloured (6,523 males and 6,239 females), an increase as compared with 1902 of 425 persons.

The estimated total population, including the naval and military establishments, was 23,317 persons.

The birth-rate was 35.6, and the death-rate 23.2 per 1,000.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 15.08 to 100 births.

(B.) Public Health.

The state of the public health during the year was good.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1903 was 4,582; the deaths were 12, the rate of mortality thus being about 2.83 per 1,000.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. The average strength of the European garrison was 2,577; non-European, 202. Number of admissions to hospital, 1,474. Ratio of admission per 1,000 of strength:—European, 532.01; non-European, 509.90. Number of deaths:—European, 8; non-European, 2. Average number of daily sick:—European, 72.96; non-European, 7.87. Average strength of officers, 103; cases of sickness, 53; deaths none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 306. There were two deaths.

The average daily mean strength of the naval forces in the Colony during the year 1903, corrected for the time each ship remained in port, was 1,803. This included 933 men employed in the dockyard.

(D.) Meteorological Observations.

The returns from the observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, shew as follows:—Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30.088 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70.4 degrees; mean relative humidity, 82.9 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 9.4 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 62.14 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, .93 inch less; number of day during the year on which rain fell, 201.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

There are 20 post offices in the Colony, and 3 money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office in 1903 was £6,515, compared with a revenue of £6,223 in 1902. The expenditure was £5,336, compared with £4,806 in 1902.

The net revenue from the Post Office in 1903 was thus £1,179, as compared with £1,417 in 1902.

For some years past there has been a steady growth in the revenue of the Post Office. The increase in correspondence is no doubt due to the reductions in postage and to the increase of the civil population and the military establishment.

Postal Service.

The sum of £3,480 was paid out in the Colony on money orders from abroad, as compared with £5,261 in 1902.

The amount paid into the Post Office on account of money orders for abroad during the year was £22,183, as compared with £22,668 in 1902. A large proportion of this money was sent by West Indian labourers working in this Colony to their families in the West Indies. These money orders amounted to £8,437; those to the United Kingdom, £11,693, and to the

United States of America, £1,393. The number of letters dealt with during the year was 1,213,868; post cards, 43,780; newspapers, 473,408; book-packets and circulars, 112,216; and parcels, 11,631. The parcel post service has continued to increase, and the work thrown on the Post Office Department generally and specially at the central office and at Ireland Island post office, was very onerous.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

The inland telegraph service, which is under the control of the military, provides telegraphic communication between the principal parts of the Colony. The revenue returned for the year was £5 0s. 9d., and the expenditure, £237 8s.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which companies are under subsidies from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world through Halifax on the one hand, and Turks Island and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Island and Jamaica in 1898. The company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George's for the use of the public.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary	2,199
Military establishments	238,189

Compared with 1902 the latter return shews a decrease of £106,409.

The expenditure on the naval establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular military forces at Bermuda in 1903 was 2,779, and the average strength of the naval forces, 1,803.

Return of Militia.—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 390 officers and men, and the Submarine Miners Engineer Militia, 43 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers.—Bermuda Rifle Volunteer Corps, 319 officers and men.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Civil Establishment.

Under the provisions of The Public Officers' Salaries Act, 1902, public officers were paid their salaries monthly instead of quarterly from the 1st February, 1903.

On the 1st January, 1903, the following new appointments were made:—

Mr. J. T. Trimingham to be junior clerk in the Colonial Secretary's office.

Mr. L. R. Motyer to be junior clerk in the Colonial Surveyor's Office.

On the 23rd January, 1903, Mr. W. H. Skeen was appointed to act as Superintendent of Roads.

Mr. W. Cardy Hallett, Colonial Surveyor, was granted two months leave of absence on special duty on the 31st January, 1903, to proceed to England in connection with his survey of the St. George's Channel. Mr. H. H. Hallett, Chief Clerk of the Colonial Surveyor's Office, was appointed to act as Colonial Surveyor.

Mr. C. V. Ingham resigned his office as one of the Assistant Justices of the Court of General Assize on the 7th March, 1903.

The Hon. R. Gray, Attorney General, resumed office on the 10th March, 1903, on the expiration of his leave of absence.

Mr. F. Goodwin Gosling, Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed on the 6th June, 1902, provisionally as Registrar of Patents, Designs and Trade Marks.

The Hon. Eyre Hutson, Colonial Secretary, was granted 10 days leave of absence on the 27th June, 1903, and Mr. F. Goodwin Gosling, Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed to act as Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Joseph H. S. Frith, Assistant Receiver General, retired in July, 1903, and Mr. Claude M. McCallan, Revenue Officer, St. George's, was appointed on the 9th of that month to act as Assistant Receiver General.

Mr. Andrew Greig and Mr. Ernest A. McCallan were appointed on the 9th July, 1903, to act respectively as Revenue Officer and Clerk in the post office, St. George's.

Mr. Howard C. Mercer was appointed 3rd Clerk in the Post Office, Hamilton, on the 12th October, 1903, in the place of Mr. A. S. T. Gilbert, resigned.

Provision having being made by the Legislature for the appointment of a Clerk to the Audit Board, Mr. Grosvenor H. St. G. Tucker, was appointed Clerk on the 12th October, 1903.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. Vulliamy was appointed on the 24th December, 1903, to be an Assistant Justice of the Court of General Assize in the place of Mr. C. V. Ingham, resigned.

Immigration.

The operation of the provisions of the stringent Immigration Laws had the effect of checking the large immigration from the West Indies during the year.

The Immigration Officer at Hamilton, which is the principal port of disembarkation, estimates that during the year 382 persons, exclusive of persons connected with the naval and military establishments, arrived in the Colony, and that 176 persons left the Colony, shewing an estimated increase of immigration over emigration of 206 persons.

He estimates that 308 coloured West Indians arrived in the Colony during the year and 148 left the Colony. 32 Portuguese arrived during the year as against 9 who left the Colony.

As stated above the estimated number of Immigrants for the year was 382, as compared with 644 in 1902, and 1,002 in 1901.

There is still a strong demand for labourers, and the high rate of wages has been maintained, in fact, there appears to be a tendency for the rate to increase, both for common labourers and for mechanics.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The general prosperity of these Islands appears to have been on the increase throughout 1903. The financial condition of the Colony is satisfactory, and, taking all circumstances into consideration, it may be said that the year closed with fair promise for the future.

The taxation per head is low, and if found necessary, the community can well afford a sacrifice in the way of increased taxation on the part of each individual for the common weal. The return of imports and exports shew that notwithstanding an increased expenditure during the year, the Revenue more than met the calls made on it. On the 31st December, 1903, there was a cash balance in hand of £25,805, as compared with

£24,139 at the same date in the previous year, and there was a surplus of revenue over actual expenditure of £2,665.

It must not be overlooked, however, that certain appropriations from general revenue made during the year for public works, and which had not been disbursed, must be considered as liabilities incurred. These liabilities may roughly be taken at £10,478, which brings the amount appropriated and spent during the year up to a sum of £7,813 over the amount of revenue realized for the year. It is not likely that increased taxation will be levied for the financial year 1904-5, nor that the revenue for 1904 will be in excess of that of 1903, so that the liabilities referred to for public works incurred will form a charge against the surplus funds of the Colony, which, notwithstanding repeated appeals to the popular branch of the Legislature, remain idle in a local bank.

As regards the general circumstances of the Colony and the condition of its people there is not much to be said. Contrasted with the previous year, there is little change perceptible.

In the month of September the Colony was visited by a hurricane, fortunately not a severe one, and a certain amount of minor damage was done to private property. The damage to Colonial public buildings and property was estimated at £2,000. Very little loss was incurred by farmers with regard to their crops.

The quantity of exports of the Colony, which are mainly agricultural products, is practically the same as it was ten years ago, while the revenue derived from Customs receipts has increased considerably. This fact points to the conclusion that Bermuda has become more and more a mercantile community, and the public appreciate the fact that a large proportion of its business is derived from the presence in the Colony of the large naval and military establishments.

The question as to carrying out the proposed improvement to the channel leading from the sea into St. George's Harbour remains still under consideration. Revised estimates of the cost of these works, on the basis of the new route via the Jenkin's Boiler Channel, were placed before the Legislature in the month of July, 1903, with a recommendation from Messrs. Coode Son & Matthews, the consulting engineers, that the works, if undertaken, should be carried out departmentally. The House of Assembly, however, requested the Governor to cause advertisements to be issued calling for tenders for the proposed works. Up to the end of the year the Colonial Surveyor was occupied in preparing the necessary drawings and specifications for the use of possible tenderers. It is not considered likely that the Crown Agents will be in a position to isssue notices inviting tenders for the work before July, 1904.

The proposal put forward by Governor Sir H. L. Geary that the Imperial Government should build a military light railway from St George's to Ireland Island, which was referred to in my last Blue Book Report, had not been proceeded with during the year, and it is not considered likely that the proposed railway will be built from Imperial funds.

No organised steps were taken during 1903 to stimulate the winter tourist trade, although the Quebec Steamship Company, who have practically a monopoly of the steamer passenger service between New York and Bermuda, placed an order in England for the building of a first class passenger steamer with increased accommodation. The Princess Hotel Company, which owns one of the two principal hotels, took steps in the autumn to add a large wing to the existing building, to provide improved accommodation for guests. The addition to the building, which was partly finished, was demolished by the hurricane in the month of September, but was immediately rebuilt. There are indications that persons interested in the tourist trade are at last awakening to the necessity of bringing these Islands up to date as a winter resort.

I have, &c.,

EYRE HUTSON,

Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency,

Sir Robert MacGregor Stewart, K.C.B.,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief,

Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
400	Lagos	1902
401	British Solomon Islands	1902–1903
402	Cocos-Keeling Islands	1903
403	St. Vincent	1902–1903
404	Grenada	1903
405	Southern Nigeria	1902
406	Straits Settlements	"
407	Trinidad and Tobago	1902–1903
408	Basutoland	"
409	Northern Nigeria	1902
410	Malta	1902–1903
411	St. Lucia	1902
412	Mauritius	"
413	British Guiana	1902–1903
414	Jamaica	"
—	Bahamas (Printed separately as [Cd. 1985]) ...	1902
415	Falkland Islands	1902–1903
416	Leeward Islands	"
417	British Honduras	1903

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.

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1904.

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No. 447.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1903 *see* No. 418.)

GOVERNOR SIR R. M. STEWART to MR. LYTTELTON.

Government House,
Bermuda,
15th April, 1905.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1904, which has been prepared by Mr. Eyre Hutson, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

R. M. STEWART,
Lieut.-General, Governor and
Commander-in-Chief.

875 Wt 23792 5/05 D & S 5 21388 A 2

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Bermuda,

14th April, 1905.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1904:—

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £63,457, being in excess of the revenue for 1903, which was £57,169, by £6,288.

The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1904 with that for 1903:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1903	45,995	11,174	57,169
1904	50,277	13,180	63,457
Increase	4,282	2,006	6,288
Decrease...	—	—	—

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1903	19,949	35,554	55,503
1904	20,670	40,463	61,133
Increase	721	4,909	5,630

The return of revenue for the year under review shews that there was an increase in the gross receipts over those in 1903

amounting to £6,288. These receipts, which amounted to £63,457, were made up as follows:—

——	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Ad valorem Duty	24,067	14	11
Specific Duty	26,209	7	3
Other Receipts	13,180	17	8
Total...	63,457	19	10

Refunds of duty amounting to £1,966 were made during the year, being drawback of duty on goods supplied to His Majesty's naval and military establishments, and on goods exported, and sundry small refunds of duty paid in error.

Heads of Increase.

The receipts of revenue shew an increase over those of 1903 in the following items:—

——	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Ad valorem Duty (5 per cent.)...	2,439	2	9
Bananas	90	2	0
Cigars and Cigarettes	237	2	8
Eggs	145	1	7
Malt Liquor	941	14	4
Other Spirits	264	8	9
Wines	206	12	8
Fines of Court	118	6	10
Immigration	296	0	0
Lighthouse Tolls...	154	19	2
Miscellaneous Receipts	679	5	10
Reimbursements to Government.	199	5	7
Horses	13	0	0
Oxen and Cows	35	0	0

Heads of Decrease.

——	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Ad valorem Duty (10 per cent.)	6	1	5
Bicycles	38	10	0
Wines	12	19	2
Tobacco and Snuff	33	1	7
Auction Duty	95	5	6
Fees of Office	9	7	4
Postal Revenue	337	4	2

Expenditure.

Increases appear in the following items:—

—	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Colonial Secretary	8	2	0
Receiver-General...	40	16	2
Colonial Surveyor	5,604	12	7
Annuities and Gratuities ...	348	2	11
Audit Board	58	14	3
Refund of Duty	16	19	5
Educational	173	19	11
Immigration	185	15	11
Legislative	725	5	1
Library and Museum	685	6	0
Lunatic Asylum	268	5	2
Police	762	17	9
Pilotage	183	10	0
Public Health	128	3	10
Registration	27	15	2

Heads of Decrease:—

—	Amount.		
	£	s.	d.
Agriculture	47	13	10
Public Debt	100	0	0
Gaols	528	7	11
Interest...	4	7	6
Judicial	228	13	0
Lighthouses	73	19	8
Loans	1,000	0	0
Miscellaneous Payments ...	245	15	4
Post Office	258	18	5
Rents	5	6	0
Savings Bank Advances... ...	866	10	0
Superannuation Service ...	229	2	0

(B.) Revenue and Expenditure for the last Five Years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1900	40,124	47,532
1901	51,436	38,640
1902	56,666	52,308
1903	57,169	55,503
1904	63,457	61,133

The revenue for 1904 was £63,457 19*s.* 10*d.*, as compared with £57,169 15*s.* 5*d.* for the previous year, shewing an increase of £6,288 4*s.* 5*d.* In this statement are included the following items received during 1904:—£1,000, repayment by the Savings Bank of a loan made to it from the Public Treasury during the last quarter of 1903; and £1,500 paid into the Treasury by the Corporation of St. George's under the provisions of Act No. 24, 1870, being the proceeds of the sale of certain Colonial Government lands at St. George's to the War Department. The actual revenue for 1904 was therefore £60,957 19*s.* 10*d.*, an actual increase over that of 1903 of £3,788 4*s.* 5*d.*

The expenditure for the year was £61,133 7*s.* 1*d.*, an increase over that for 1903 of £5,629 11*s.* 7*d.* Included in this statement are the following items, which account for the large increase:—£1,500 repaid to the Corporation of St. George's towards purchase of wharf property under the provisions of Act No. 24 of 1870, and £3,605 9*s.* 9*d.* expenditure on account of the new apparatus for Gibbs Hill Lighthouse.

The surplus of revenue over expenditure for the year was £2,324 12*s.* 9*d.*

The cash balance on hand on the 31st December, 1904, was £28,130, as against £25,805 at the end of 1903.

Owing to the decrease about to be made in the Imperial Establishments in the Colony, and the discharge of a number of the civilian employees at the Naval Dockyard some months ago, the revenue of the Colony in 1904 probably reached its "high water mark."

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony at the end of 1904 amounted to	£28,130	1	2
The liabilities on the same date amounted to	2,791	7	6
Shewing a balance of ...	£25,338	13	8

(D.) Public Debt.

The public debt at the end of 1904 amounted to £46,500, made up as follows:—

Local Inscribed Stock	£45,500
New Government House Debentures	1,000

On £40,000 of the Local Inscribed Stock the rate of interest is 4½ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate of 4 per cent. The first-mentioned sum was raised in 1893-4 for the

purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The ninth annual instalment of £1,000, payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the sinking fund created in connection with the loan, was remitted to London for investment last year.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting St. George's with the main island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by the hurricane in September, 1899. Instalments, amounting to £1,350, towards the sinking fund to be created in connection with this loan, have been remitted to London for investment. The stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

The average rate of interest on the Government House Debentures is $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. The original amount of the debt was £11,600. According to the tenor and effect of the debentures now outstanding, they are redeemable as follows:—1907, £400; 1908, £500; 1909, £100; so that no further reduction of this debt, which now amounts to £1,000, can be effected before 1907.

All of the loans referred to were raised locally.

(E.) Currency.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government bank, and there is no paper money in circulation, with the exception of a very limited number of Bank of England notes. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two local banks, the Bank of Bermuda, Ltd., and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, Ltd., both incorporated by local Acts.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments in the Colony, issues bills of exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

The Colonial Government keeps a current account with the Bank of Bermuda and with the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, to the extent of a maximum deposit of £4,000 at each bank, against which deposits the banks give security to the full maximum amount.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £42,431) in 1904 was £589,979.

Compared with 1903, this shows an increase of £50,291.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1900 to 1904 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1900 ...	397,136	104,009	31,488	9,932	250,729	978
1901 ...	500,716	142,911	41,167	11,399	296,937	8,302
1902 ...	546,141	155,675	52,110	13,523	321,487	3,346
1903 ...	539,688	172,347	65,637	9,457	289,239	3,008
1904 ...	589,979	190,995	86,150	12,705	295,054	5,096

In the above figures the value of the Government stores—civil, naval, and military—is not included. Owing to objections raised during the year by the Naval Department to furnish returns giving the value of Government stores imported, all returns of Government imports were abolished, and therefore it is not practicable to give an estimate of the value of such imports for the year under review.

The principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1904, compared with 1903, were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1904.	1903.
	£	£
Clothing	19,488	16,304
Cotton Goods...	20,980	17,363
Fancy Goods	4,269	4,391
Canned Fruit and Meats	3,319	1,950
Oilmen's Stores	17,392	14,612
Silk Goods	2,421	1,955

Principal Imports from the United Kingdom—cont.

Article.	Value.	
	1904.	1903.
	£	£
Rice	1,414	1,591
Sugar	1,997	2,340
Woollen Goods	10,715	10,140
Machinery	9,296	4,616
Metal Manufactures...	5,942	7,246
Malt Liquor	28,510	29,366
Coals	—	—
Whisky	4,367	4,360
Wine	4,023	4,005
Hardware	2,272	2,116
Building Material	9,977	8,772
Drugs	2,635	2,112
Earthenware	1,424	1,273
Glassware	1,869	1,900
Stationery	1,887	1,484
Jewelry	3,982	5,220
Leather, Manufactured	2,306	3,027

The principal imports from Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1904.	1903.
	£	£
Box Material...	8,314	3,695
Butter...	11,422	11,230
Fish (Preserved)	5,842	4,220
Flour	10,119	3,647
Horses	2,864	1,242
Bran	3,521	2,531
Cheese	3,197	3,384
Hay	2,952	3,819
Leather, Manufactured	1,255	1,130
Oats	8,493	8,390
Lumber	8,113	591
Potatoes	4,593	4,624
Fruit	1,226	—

It is pleasing to note the continued increase under almost every heading of imports from Canada. The total imports for the year amounted to £86,150, as against £65,693 in 1903, or a total increase for the year 1904 of £20,457. The imports for the year 1902 amounted to £52,131.

The principal imports from the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1904.	1903.
	£	£
Beef	12,061	14,568
Bran	2,845	2,925
Butter	7,079	7,549
Coals	—	5,654
Cotton Goods...	10,941	10,415
Fertilizers	6,364	7,297
Fancy Goods...	2,625	2,369
Flour	15,313	16,806
Canned Fruit and Meats	8,098	9,277
Groceries	7,747	9,789
Hardware	7,396	5,540
Leather, Manufactured	15,724	13,270
Lumber	8,930	8,813
Kerosene Oil	9,881	8,490
Oats	2,634	2,669
Provisions	19,211	23,681
Oxen and Cows	26,538	26,823
Sheep	4,308	4,042
Sugar	5,759	6,269
Tobacco	1,628	1,835
Building Material	6,591	4,721
Carriages	1,279	1,271
Cheese...	2,178	2,197
Clothing	5,757	4,571
Corn	5,250	5,464
Drugs	5,774	5,539
Furniture	6,382	3,500
Metal Manufactured	6,179	5,229
Bicycles	1,656	2,341
Horses...	3,129	3,967
Machinery	3,122	2,386

The total value of imports from the United States of America for the year was £295,054, as against £290,587 in 1903, and £321,594 in 1902.

The fact that during the year 63,150 dozen eggs were imported into the Colony at a declared value of £3,152 and that fruit to the value of £7,195, and live poultry to the value of £1,027 were also imported, would seem to furnish grounds for believing that there is an opening for the extension of the fruit and dairy-farming industry in these islands.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £27,978) in 1904 was £130,305.

Compared with 1903 this shews an increase of £4,692, and an increase by £20,730 on the average of the preceding five years.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1900 to 1904 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1900 ...	93,769	4,683	2,071	1,299	85,599	117
1901 ...	98,479	3,333	1,036	3,456	90,654	—
1902 ...	111,135	6,328	1,753	2,202	100,730	122
1903 ...	125,343	3,806	5,032	4,256	112,249	—
1904 ...	130,305	3,785	4,606	3,710	118,184	—

The principal exports to the United Kingdom in 1904, compared with 1903, were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1904.	1903.
	£	£
Arrowroot	1,192	1,184
Bulbs	479	466
Hides	390	793
Tallow...	439	294

The principal exports to Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1904.	1903.
	£	£
Hides	118	97
Onions...	1,461	1,375
Lily bulbs	126	26

The principal exports to the United States were:—

Article.	Value	
	1904.	1903.
	£	£
Bulbs	8,471	8,000
Hides	1,183	829
Onions...	72,259	53,965
Potatoes	25,274	33,945
Miscellaneous Vegetables	3,617	2,943

The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £115,312, as against £107,236 for 1903. Of this £2,747 was exported to the United Kingdom, £3,364 to British Colonies, and £111,948 to the United States of America.

(B.) Manufactures and Fisheries.

Manufactures.

There is an ice factory, which manufactures most of the ice locally consumed.

There is one arrowroot factory, which is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this valuable commodity.

The arrowroot manufactured in the Colony is of an excellent quality and commands a high price in home and foreign markets. It is being placed on such markets at the present date in attractive packages, and in small quantities, with distinctive labels as to origin, and it is hoped that the demand for this product will increase.

Fisheries.

I have, in previous reports, stated that there would appear to be a good opening for such an industry in these islands if worked on organized principles. Not only is no fish exported, but there is no regular fish market in the Colony. Fish is purchased by butchers, by weight, and an incentive is thereby given to fishermen to catch the heaviest and coarsest kind of fish, and the ordinary households are forced to eat that or none. The only alternative is to keep one's own fish-pot or to subsidize a fisherman.

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets is the chief agricultural industry of these islands. The principal market is New York. A limited quantity of ordinary kitchen garden produce, such as lettuce, parsley, celery, carrots, beets, &c., is shipped to meet the demand for such products in New York in the early part of the year. This latter industry is capable of being enlarged, and with the advent of the new steamer, the s.s. "Bermudian," on the service to New York, which provides a larger space for cold storage, it is hoped that the industry will be pushed.

The Legislature placed at the disposal of the Board of Agriculture during the past year the sum of £1,000 to encourage the export of produce to markets other than those of the United States. It was decided to make shipments of onions during the season to the principal cities of Canada, and leading dealers in such produce in those cities were selected as consignees, and a committee of the Board was appointed to superintend the purchase of onions in the local market. The shipments—2,500 crates of onions—were so made, at a cost of £520. The sales and all expenses connected therewith shewed an actual loss of £230 on the venture. The loss on a similar experiment in 1903 was £369.

The committee in their report state that in their opinion the loss was again due to circumstances of a very unusual character, and they suggested that another effort should be made during the crop season of 1905.

The potato crop of 1904 was somewhat smaller than that of 1903. The quantities exported were as follows:—34,707 barrels and 65 boxes, of a declared value of £26,014. The average price was 15*s.* 6*d.* per barrel, as compared with 12*s.* 2*d.* in 1903. The quantity exported in 1903 was 49,262 barrels and 757 boxes, of a declared value of £34,579.

The onion crop was an exceptionally large one, being the second largest crop ever exported. The average price per crate was 3*s.* 10*d.*, as compared with 4*s.* 4*d.* in 1903. Good prices were maintained during the season. The quantity and declared value of the export was as follows:—

387,839 crates and 186 barrels; declared value £74,162

The quantities for the previous year were:—

255,811 crates and 95 barrels; declared value £55,620.

The lily crop was again a small one and the prices poor, as compared with former years. 8,938 packages were exported at a declared value of £8,976, as against 10,650 packages exported in 1903 at a value of £8,592. The value of 8,274 packages

in1902 was declared at £21,058. It appears that this industry is no longer the "bonanza" of former years, and the Bermuda lily has to compete now with the Japanese variety, which is placed on the American markets at a low price.

The late Superintendent of the Public Garden, in his report for the year 1903, stated that about 25 per cent. to 40 per cent. of lily bulbs forced in the United States, according to reports received, failed to grow, and he stated that these conditions were due to the attack of an insect which eats out the crown of the bulbs. He recommended the farmer to give special attention to the present state of this crop, and also that no bulbs should be allowed to be returned to Bermuda that have been discarded by "forcers," except for scientific purposes. He pointed out that if the ruinous insect gets a good footing in these islands the lily industry will be rendered unprofitable. The Board of Agriculture have taken no definite steps in the direction referred to.

The export of arrowroot amounted to 10 tons 2 cwt., valued at £1,398, as against 9 tons 9 cwt. exported in 1903, valued at £1,300.

There was an appreciable increase in the export of vegetables other than onions and potatoes: 29,038 packages, valued at £3,637, as against 23,696 in 1903, valued at £2,973.

It is hoped that a much larger quantity of green vegetables will, in the future, be exported to New York following the improved facilities for transport to New York offered by the Quebec Steamship Company by means of the new steamer placed on the service.

The value of potatoes, onions, and green vegetables exported during the year was £11,638 in excess of the value of such produce exported during 1903, and £24,546 in excess of the value exported in 1902.

(D.) The Public Garden.

The Public Garden, which is supported chiefly as an experimental agricultural station, is under the control and management of the Board of Agriculture.

The office of the Superintendent of the garden fell vacant at the end of May, 1904, and this Government was fortunate in securing the services of Mr. T. J. Harris, a valued official of the Department of Public Gardens and Plantations in Jamaica. He, unfortunately, found the garden much neglected, and he assumed office at the end of the financial year, with little or no funds available for labour at the Public Garden.

Much good work was done at the Garden during the period from 1st July to the end of the year under revision.

Mr. Harris, in his report for the year, has recommended that the work of the Public Garden should proceed on the following lines:—

The establishment of new agricultural crops.

The resuscitating of fruit cultivation, especially that of peaches and citrus fruits.

The introduction, propagation, and distribution of ornamental trees and plants, with a view to enhancing the natural beauty of the islands.

The introduction of forest trees more productive of humus than the cedar or juniper, yet capable of withstanding gales to which the islands are subject.

The investigation of diseases affecting lily bulbs, and the hybridization and selection of varieties.

The conduct of experiments in the production of onion seed in Bermuda to obviate, if possible, the dependence on the Teneriffe crop.

Further experiments in ensilage with a view to its substitution for a portion of the present imported fodder.

The cultivation of small plots of vegetables and strawberries for the purpose of establishing standard varieties for Bermuda.

Investigation of the diseases affecting the lily bulbs is being proceeded with, and plots of various varieties of lilies have been planted.

Experiments in the production of onion seed at the proper period of the year are being carried out. Mr. Harris is much impressed with the undesirable dependence of Bermuda on Teneriffe for its annual supply of onion seed.

During 1904, 5 tons 8 cwt. of seed were imported from Teneriffe, at a declared value of £2,007. This experiment is no doubt one of much importance to the agricultural interests of the Colony.

Experiments are also being continued in the cultivation of new varieties of potatoes.

Experiments in the culture of tobacco were conducted during 1904, in continuation of former experiments. Samples of the cured product were forwarded during the year for report to the Imperial Institute. The report on the samples shewed that, while the product was an improvement on that previously forwarded for report, it was only fairly satisfactory, and only valued by manufacturers at 5*d*. per lb., an unremunerative price so far as this Colony is concerned. Mr. Harris is of

opinion that Sumatra wrapper might be successfully grown and cured in Bermuda, and funds have been placed at his disposal for the purpose.

He intends also to attempt the systematic cultivation of peaches, planting the trees in such a way as to permit them to be covered with netting without difficulty during the fruiting period as a protection against the fruit fly, *Ceratitis capitata*.

The above account of the work being carried on, or which is contemplated, at the Public Garden, bears testimony to the value of the establishment, and to the useful purposes to which the Legislative appropriations are being devoted.

(E.) Shipping.

The total tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1904, in comparison with 1903, is shewn on the following table:—

	1904.			1903.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	529,827	11,628	541,455	463,468	17,617	481,085
American	495	12,907	13,402	4,112	10,331	14,443
Austrian	—	—	—	7,984	—	7,984
Dutch	—	—	—	5,250	—	5,250
French	4,400	—	4,400	—	—	—
German	12,586	2,508	15,094	9,054	—	9,054
Italian	18,054	—	18,054	21,132	—	21,132
Norwegian ...	9,774	3,370	13,144	5,306	3,357	8,663
Portuguese ...	—	—	—	3,018	—	3,018
Spanish	6,434	—	6,434	—	—	—
Danish	5,271	—	5,271	—	—	—
Total ...	586,841	30,413	617,254	519,324	31,305	550,629

Shipping entered and cleared for last five years:—

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons
1900	579,119	150,713
1901	709,795	222,458
1902	574,487	133,930
1903	481,085	69,544
1904	541,455	75,799

III.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislature was convened on the 29th day of May, 1904, and at the end of the year was still in Session.

Thirty-three Acts were passed during the year, of which the following may be taken as the most important:—

No. 3. The Lighthouse Act, 1904. This Act places the management of the lighthouses of the Colony on a much more desirable footing. Under its provisions the powers and authority hitherto vested in the Lighthouse Commissioners have been transferred to the Governor and the Governor in Council, and the Board of Lighthouse Commissioners has been abolished.

No. 6. The War Department Land Act, 1904. This Act deals with the manner of acquiring land in the Colony for military purposess, and the mode of determining the compensation for land thus acquired.

No. 7. The Whaling Industry Act, 1904 This Act grants to Mr. Eugenius Harvey a monopoly for a period of twenty years, under certain conditions, to carry on a whaling industry in these islands, the concession having been granted chiefly on the grounds that the establishment and maintenance of a modern whaling factory would be a benefit to the Colony in affording employment to a number of natives both at sea and on land.

No. 11. The N. T. Butterfield & Son Bank Act, 1904. This Act incorporates the shareholders of this bank, which is an old private bank, and regulates its business substantially on the same lines as in the Act of 1890 incorporating the Bank of Bermuda.

No. 16. The Public Works Department Act, 1904. This Act abolishes the post of Superintendent of Roads, makes provision for the appointment temporarily of a draughtsman clerk in the Department of the Colonial Surveyor, and provides an annual allowance for the travelling expenses of the officers of the Department.

No. 21. The Bermuda Electric Light, Power, and Traction Company Act, 1904. This Act, as its title indicates, incorporates a company for the purposes mentioned, and grants the company exclusive privileges under certain conditions in connection with electric lighting, supplying electric power, and establishing a rapid transit service. The memorandum of association has been duly deposited by the company, but up to the close of the year the company had taken no steps to erect the necessary electric plant.

No. 22. The Biological Station Act, 1904. This Act provides for the erection and establishment of an aquarium and biological station in Bermuda, the former to serve as an attractive institution of public interest, and the latter to offer opportunities for biological research to scientists coming to the Colony from abroad. It is intended that the aquarium shall be maintained by the Colony, and that the biological branch of the institution when erected and furnished to a certain extent, shall be leased to some responsible person or persons, under whose direction and management it will be placed. It is anticipated that some educational institution or institutions in the United States of America will be the lessees.

No. 27. The Island Steamboat Act, 1904. This Act was passed with a view of ensuring protection to passengers travelling in the island steamboats and ferry steamers, and also to abate certain nuisances caused by the absence of proper regulations governing the conduct of the persons in charge of such steamboats. Under the provisions of the Act, the masters of all steamboats are required to satisfy the Pilot Commissioners as to their competency, and to obtain a license to entitle them to pilot steamboats.

No. 32. The Board of Public Works Act, 1904. This Act confers on the Board of Public Works power to order the abatement or removal of conditions existing which constitute a danger to the passengers on public highways. Similar powers were hitherto conferred on the local Parish Vestries, in their jurisdiction as local Boards of Health, but it was also considered desirable to confer full powers in this connection on the Board of Public Works.

No. 33. The Savings Bank Act (No. 2), 1904. This Act provides that all payments from the Public Treasury for the expenses of management of the Savings Bank after the 1st January, 1903, shall be treated as advances to be repaid whenever the financial condition of the bank permits. This measure was advocated by the Receiver General, in connection with his report on the Savings Bank made in 1902.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—

Twenty-five aided primary schools, with 1,707 scholars (891 boys and 816 girls); school fees, £907; Government contributions, £1,356. One aided secondary school, with 40 scholars (26 boys and 14 girls); school fees, £79; Government contributions, £50.

The schools referred to are private schools aided by grants from the Colonial Treasury. Eight of them are attended by

white children, and conducted by white teachers; seventeen of them are attended by coloured children, under coloured teachers. None of them are free schools, the fee charged in most cases being 3*d*. per week. The Legislature provides an annual sum of £2,000 to aid in the working of the 26 schools referred to, and also in the working of one secondary school. This grant is administered by a Board of Education, presided over and appointed by the Governor. The aided schools are inspected regularly by an Inspector of Schools. During the year the Legislature made a small additional grant to enable the Board of Education to purchase some special books and maps for aided schools.

In addition to three garrison schools and two military schools, there are other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are four secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys; the Berkeley Institute, for coloured boys and girls; the Convent School and High School, for white girls; all of which are situated in or near the City of Hamilton.

Twenty-nine candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last for the Bermuda Centre, 7 seniors, 7 juniors, and 15 preliminary students. Of these candidates, 22 passed, 7 seniors, 5 juniors, and 10 preliminary. Three of the candidates obtained honours.

During the year the report of the Commissioners referred to in my last report was considered by a Joint Committee of the Legislature. As stated in my last report, the Commissioners recommended that funds should be provided to enable the Board of Education to secure more suitable premises for a certain number of the Primary Schools. They also recommended the amendment of the Schools Act in certain minor respects, and a large increase in the present grant-in-aid of Primary Schools, and the voting of a grant-in-aid of secondary education. The Joint-Committee of the Legislature endorsed the main recommendations of the Commission, but no legislation to give effect thereto was passed during the year, although the House of Assembly have granted leave for a Bill to be introduced embodying the recommendations of the Joint-Committee.

The Board of Education continued to provide special lectures to the primary school teachers on school management, and also on the elementary principles of agriculture. The Legislature, on the application of the Board of Education, provided a sum of £100, in addition to the usual education grant, to enable the Board to continue these lectures.

The conditions for the award of scholarships, under the provisions of the Will of the late Right Honourable Cecil J.

Rhodes, were not settled during the year. In response to an advertisement issued in April, 1904, calling for candidates for the Rhodes Scholarship, four applications were received. One of the applicants, Mr. H. C. Cox, a native of Bermuda, who had received most of his education in these Islands, was selected as Scholar by the Trustees, and went into residence at Oxford during the year.

It is the intention of the Executive to invite the Legislature to make provision for a local scholarship, to be tenable for one or two years at English public schools or at other educational establishments abroad, by Bermuda boys who have been selected locally as candidates to be put forward for the Rhodes Scholarship.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government. There is a cottage hospital near the City of Hamilton which is supported by voluntary contributions.

Following the large increase of the population in recent years, and the growing popularity of these Islands as a summer resort for tourists from the United States, the community has begun to realise that the time has arrived for the establishment of a general hospital, to be supported partly by a subsidy from the general revenue of the Colony and partly by the fees of paying patients. Towards the close of the year, this question received the attention of the Governors of the Cottage Hospital and of the General Board of Health, and certain proposals on the subject were submitted for the consideration of the Executive. So soon as the question of site for the extension of the existing hospital or for the erection of a new building has been satisfactorily determined, the Governor proposes to place the matter before the Legislature for consideration.

Hospitals are maintained in connection with the Imperial naval and military establishments.

(B.) Lunatic Asylum.

An asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in the Colony in 1846.

The Medical Officer of Health is the medical superintendent of the institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants.

Eight patients (7 male and 1 female) were admitted into the asylum in 1904. Three patients were discharged. The daily average number of patients was 52 (31 males and 21 females).

The Executive had under consideration during the year the question of making extensive additions to the present buildings in order to provide for the accommodation of paying patients for a certain class of the community. Heretofore, such patients were, as a rule, placed in institutions in the United States and Canada. The restrictions imposed recently by these countries on the arrival of such persons from abroad, render it necessary for this Colony to improve, to a certain extent, the accommodation provided at the lunatic asylum.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1904, was 1,961, having an aggregate sum of £44,913 to their credit, as compared with 1,892 depositors in 1903, having £40,916 to their credit. The amount of deposits during the year was £16,645, as against £17,232 in 1903.

The amount of invested funds of the Bank on 31st December, 1904, was £48,334 at par, equal to £42,654 at market value of Consols on 31st December, 1904. The cash in the hands of the Receiver-General and managers on 31st December, 1904, was £2,311.

By Act No. 41 of 1902, the rate of interest allowed on deposits from 1st January, 1903, was reduced from 2½ to 2 per cent.

A comparison of the transactions of the Bank for the past three years shows a steady increase of business during the period.

(F.) Friendly Societies.

The number of Friendly Societies on the register on 31st December, 1904, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The regular police force consists of 1 inspector, 3 chief constables, and 22 regular police constables. There are in addition 21 salaried rural police constables appointed by the Governor.

Under the provisions of the Police Act, 1901, the Governor is empowered to employ in any temporary emergency or for any special occasion extra constables not exceeding 20 in number, and may authorise the employment of an unlimited number of special constables on the application of the inspector of police or other persons. Special constables are not remunerated from the public treasury.

The cost of the police establishment in 1904 was:—

Salaries (inclusive of the salaries of the three police magistrates)	£3,130 18 11
Other charges	580 3 0
Total	£3,711 1 11

The cost of the establishment in the previous year was £2,948.

(B.) Prisons.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 161 (148 males and 13 females), as against 204 (197 males and 7 females) in 1903. Of these, 75 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 73 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1904 was £1,858, as compared with £2,386 in 1903.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 652, a decrease, compared with 1903, of 72, and an increase, compared with 1902, of 160.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 566, of whom, 415 were

summarily convicted, 74 discharged for want of evidence, 65 acquitted, and 12 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 415 persons summarily convicted, 342 were fined, 24 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 36 peremptorily imprisoned, 11 bound over to keep the peace, and 2 whipped.

Thirty cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, as compared with 35 in the previous year, and the convictions numbered 16; of these, 8 were for offences against the person, and 8 for offences against property.

The above returns show a decrease in crime as compared with those of the previous year. It is evident that the increase in offences committed, as compared with the periods previous to 1901, is due to the presence in the Colony of a large number of immigrants, attracted from the West Indies chiefly by the extensive works in progress at His Majesty's Dockyard, Ireland Island, and also to the general increase in the civilian population. At the same time, I am of opinion, as stated in my last report, that the large number of offences reported to the magistrates, and of persons apprehended and summoned before the magistrates, is due to the increased efficiency and activity of the police force.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

At the Census taken on the 31st March, 1901, the resident civilian population was returned at 17,535 persons, the white population numbering 6,383 (3,149 males and 3,234 females), the coloured, 11,152 (5,457 males and 5,695 females).

The Registrar-General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1904 consisted of 20,206 persons, consisting of 6,831 white (3,415 males and 3,416 females), and 13,375 coloured (6,840 males and 6,535 females), an increase, as compared with 1903, of 751 persons.

The estimated total population, including the naval and military establishments, was 25,019 persons.

The birth-rate was 38·6, and the death-rate 20·8 per 1,000.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 16·8 to 100 births.

(B.) Public Health.

The state of the public health during the year was good.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1904 was 4,813; and the deaths were 20, the rate of mortality thus being about 4·15 per 1,000.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the military forces in the command, reports that the general health of the troops has been good. The average strength of the garrison was 2,866. Number of admissions to hospital, 1,272. Ratio of admission per 1,000 of strength, 443·82. Number of deaths, 16. Average number of daily sick, 75·74. Average strength of officers, 93; cases of sickness, 30; deaths, none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into Royal Naval Hospital was 384. There were 4 deaths.

The average daily mean strength of the naval forces in the Colony during the year 1904, corrected for the time each ship remained in port, was 1,947. This included men employed in the Dockyard and the Naval Hospital.

(D.) Meteorological Observations.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·109 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70·2 degrees; mean relative humidity, 86·5 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 8 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 55·65 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 7·82 inches less; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 234.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

There are 19 post offices in the Colony, and 3 money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office Department in 1904 was £6,307, compared with a revenue of £6,515 in 1903. The expenditure was £5,034, compared with £5,336 in 1903.

The net revenue derived from the Post Office Department in 1904 was thus £1,273, as compared with £1,179 in 1903.

For some years past the transactions of this Department have been extraordinarily large, due no doubt to the increase of the civilian population, and of the military establishment.

Postal Service.

The sum of £3,967 10*s.* 10*d.* was paid out in the Colony on money orders from abroad, as compared with £3,480 in 1903.

The amount paid into the Post Office on account of money orders for abroad during the year was £26,003, as compared with £22,183 in 1903. As was the case in 1902 and 1903, a large proportion of these remittances was from West Indian immigrants to their families in the West Indies. These remittances amounted to £9,341, those to the United Kingdom, £14,045, to the United States of America, £1,724, and to Canada, £892. It is estimated that the number of letters dealt with during the year was 1,475,268; postcards, 101,517; newspapers, book-packets, and circulars, 460,184; and parcels, 12,041.

At the end of 1904, an arrangement was entered into with the General Post Office, London, whereby British postal orders were to be issued and cashed in the Colony after the 1st January, 1905. This arrangement was sanctioned by the Legislature.

Towards the close of the year, the Legislature made provision for an increase to the staff of the Hamilton Post Office, and increased the grant at the disposal of the Governor in Council for the maintenance of the sub-post offices in the country districts, and for the delivery of letters in those districts. These increased grants were the outcome of the report of a Committee appointed to consider what changes and reforms could be effected in that branch of the Department.

In order to facilitate the cash transactions of the Department, the Legislature, during the year, authorised the Colonial Postmaster to deposit Post Office cash in one of the local banks.

The annual sum placed at the disposal of the Governor in Council for the purchase of postage stamps and other requisites of the Department, was increased from £200 to £500.

Authority was also given for the extension of the inland mail service by the establishment of a mail cart service between Mangrove Bay and Ireland Island. The completion of the Watford Island and Somerset bridge rendered the establishment of this service possible.

Legislative sanction was also given to enable this Colony to become a party to the Universal Postal Union Agreement concerning the exchange of insured letters between countries participating in the Agreement.

Arrangements were also made for the substitution of special mail carts for the conveyance of inland mails, for mail coaches which carry passengers and parcels which had hitherto been employed for the conveyance of inland mails.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

During the year the inland military telegraph service was abolished, and a military telephone service, which had previously been in use, was substituted therefor.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which companies are under subsidies from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world through Halifax on the one hand, and Turks Island and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Island and Jamaica in 1898. The company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George's for the use of the public.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

Governor's salary	£2,199
Military establishments	£275,366

Compared with 1903, the latter return shows an increase of £37,177.

The expenditure on the naval establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular military forces at Bermuda in 1904 was 2,866, and the average strength of the naval forces, 1,947.

Return of Militia.—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 238 officers and men, and the Submarine Miners Engineer Militia, 13 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers.—Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps, 319 officers and men.

The expenditure during the year on account of the Militia was £2,299, and that on account of the volunteers, £1,028. This expenditure was borne entirely by the Imperial Government.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. Grosvenor H. St. G. Tucker was appointed provisionally as Immigration Officer for Hamilton on the 4th January, 1904.

Lieutenant-General Sir H. L. Geary, K.C.B., relinquished the administration of the Colony on the 28th April, 1904.

Lieutenant-General Sir Robert MacGregor Stewart, K.C.B., assumed the administration of the Colony as Governor and Commander-in-Chief on 2nd May, 1904.

Mr. T. J. Harris was appointed Superintendent of the Public Garden on the 13th June, vice Mr. G. A. Bishop.

Mr. Clarence Peniston, M.C.P., Provost Marshal-General, was appointed a member of the Executive Council on the 30th of June.

Mr. J. Hilton Wadson was appointed Clerk to the Audit Board on the 7th July, vice Mr. G. H. St. G. Tucker, resigned.

The Honourable Henry Cowper Gollan, M.A., was appointed Chief Justice on the 5th September, 1904, vice Sir S. Brownlow Gray, C.M.G., who retired from the public service on that date.

Immigration.

During the past year the working of the Immigration Act has not proved very satisfactory. The natives of the West Indies, anxious to join their relatives and friends here, and attracted by the prevailing high wages paid to the labourers on the dockyard and other works, discovered, accidentally or otherwise, loopholes in the law, or invented ingenious methods of evading its provisions. On the other hand, the natives of the Colony appear to have shown little hesitation in furnishing for immigrants the bonds required by the law. The consequence was that during the year 731 West Indians and 153 Portuguese arrived in the Colony. Of these, 395 West Indians and 66 Portuguese left the Colony, and thus the estimated increase of immigration over emigration among the labouring class of the Colony was 423.

Taking into account all classes of the population, the excess of immigration over emigration for the year is estimated at 413, consisting of 216 males and 197 females. That among the white civilian population is estimated at 38 (33 males and 5 females), and that among the civilian coloured population 375 (183 males and 192 females).

In the above estimates no account has, of course, been taken of the winter and summer tourists.

GENERAL REMARKS.

If one may judge from the amount of revenue derived during the year from Customs receipts, which was in excess of that of any previous year, it may be assumed that the Colony's mercantile prosperity was, up to the close of the year, still on the increase.

The exports for the year were also, both in volume and value, above the average.

Much public concern was caused towards the close of the year by reports which were circulated on the subject of the reduction of the Imperial Establishments in the Colony.

The reduction of the military establishments determined on will be a reversion to the establishment maintained in the

Colony previous to the South African War, and will undoubtedly cause a decrease in business transactions, and consequently a decrease in revenue. The reduction of the number of employees in the Naval Dockyard will have a similar effect, especially in the parish contiguous to the dockyard.

So long as the Colony can rely on the New York market for the disposal of its agricultural produce at remunerative prices, and provided renewed attempts be made to encourage the tourist traffic to the Colony, there should be no appreciable decline in the Colony's prosperity.

I have, &c.,

EYRE HUTSON,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir Robert MacGregor Stewart, K.C.B.,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief,
&c., &c., &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
425	Ceylon	1903
426	Gold Coast	,,
427	Lagos	,,
428	Bahamas	1903–1904
429	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1903
430	Mauritius	,,
431	Seychelles	,,
432	Barbados	1903-1904
433	Southern Nigeria	1903
434	Fiji	,,
435	Straits Settlements	,,
436	Grenada	,,
437	Northern Nigeria	,,
438	Jamaica	1903–1904
439	Malta	,,
440	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1902–1903 & 1903–1904
441	British Guiana	1903-1904
442	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
443	St. Lucia	,,
444	Basutoland	,,
445	Leeward Islands	,,
446	St. Vincent	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou.
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island...	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 484.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1905.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 447.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
June, 1906.

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No. 484.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1904, *see* No. 447.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Bermuda,

10th May, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the Annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony, which has been prepared by Mr. Eyre Hutson, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

R. M. STEWART,

Lieut.-General, Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

1125 Wt 23907 6/06 D & S 5 25046 A 2

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Bermuda,

5th May, 1906.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following report on the Blue Book for the year 1905.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £53,321, being £10,136 less than the revenue for 1904, which was £63,467.

The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1905 with that for 1904:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1904	50,277	13,180	63,457
1905	44,855	8,466	53,321
Decrease...	5,422	4,714	10,136

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1904	20,670	40,463	61,133
1905	21,356	43,951	65,307
Increase	686	3,488	4,174

The return of revenue for the year under review shews that there was a decrease in the gross receipts, as compared with those in 1904, amounting to £10,136. The decrease in "Customs Duties" amounted to £5,422. The Receiver-General attributes this falling off in revenue chiefly to depression in trade caused by the reduction of the Naval and Military Establishments.

These receipts, which amounted to £53,321, were made up as follows:—

——	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Ad valorem Duty	21,674 10 6
Specific Duty	23,180 12 11
Other Receipts	8,466 10 8
Total...	53,321 14 1

Refunds of duty amounting to £1,996 were made during the year, being drawback of duty on goods supplied to His Majesty's Naval and Military Establishments, and on goods exported, and sundry small refunds of duty paid in error.

Heads of Increase.

Heads of Increase.	Amount.
	£ s. d.
Poultry (dead)	79 16 2
Arrowroot	53 9 6
Potatoes	76 8 0

Principal Heads of Decrease.

Heads of Decrease.	Amount.
	£
Ad valorem Duties	2,225
Bananas	101
Cigars and Cigarettes	220
Eggs	231
Malt Liquor	1,617
Rum	348
Other Spirits	457
Wines	140
Tobacco and Snuff	183
Postal Revenue	351
Fines of Court	271
Immigration	310
Lighthouse Tolls...	174

Expenditure.

The principal increases appear in the following items:—

—	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Colonial Secretary	48	0	3
Agriculture	238	7	2
Annuities and Gratuities ...	112	17	8
Refund of Duty	30	3	3
Educational	119	7	8
Judicial	66	12	0
Legislative	113	12	10
Loans (to Savings Bank) ...	3,000	0	0
Miscellaneous Payments ...	1,927	8	11
Post Office	605	6	8
Savings Bank	57	19	8
Superannuation	43	2	8

Principal Heads of Decrease.

—	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d*
Receiver-General...	75	2	1
Colonial Surveyor	816	5	0
Gaols	248	15	0
Immigration	59	0	0
Library and Museum	409	0	0
Lunatic Asylum	115	16	10
Lighthouses	87	15	1
Police	174	14	2
Pilotage	86	5	2
Public Health	99	17	4
Registration	25	7	2

(B.) Revenue and Expenditure for last Five Years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1901	51,436	38,640
1902	56,666	52,308
1903	57,169	55,503
1904	63,457	61,133
1905	53,321	65,307

In comparing the gross receipts in 1905 with those for the year 1904 account must be taken of the fact that the gross receipts for 1904, viz., £63,457, included a sum of £1,000, repayment of a loan by the Savings Bank, also a sum of £1,500, proceeds of the sale of Colonial Government lands at St. George's, which was subsequently paid to the Corporation of St. George's. The actual revenue for 1904 was, therefore, £60,957, and the revenue for 1905 thus shews a decrease, as compared with that of the previous year, of £7,636.

The gross expenditure for 1905 was £65,307, shewing apparently an increase over that for 1904 of £4,174. Included in this statement, however, is an amount of £3,000, being advances made during the year to the Savings Bank. The actual increase of expenditure, therefore, as compared with that for 1904, was only £1,174.

The excess of actual expenditure over revenue for the year was £8,986.

The cash balance in hand on the 31st December, 1905, was £16,144, as against £28,130 at the end of 1904. Should the loan of £3,000 to the Savings Bank be taken into account, the balance of funds at the end of 1905 available for Treasury purposes was £19,144. Added to this may also be included as an asset a further sum of £3,551, advanced by the Public Treasury to the Savings Bank since the adjustment of the affairs of the Bank in 1902 on account of interest to depositors, cost of management, audit, &c.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony at the end of 1905 were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Cash in the Treasury	16,144	12	0½
Advances made to Savings Bank in order to meet current demands of depositors in order not to disturb investments of Bank	3,000	0	0
Advances made to Savings Bank on account of interest, cost of management, &c.	3,551	18	8
	£22,696	10	8½
The liabilities on the 31st December, 1905, amounted to	3,613	8	10
Shewing a balance of ...	£19,083	1	10½

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1908.

(D.) Public Debt.

The public debt at the end of 1905 amounted to £46,500, made up as follows:—

Local Inscribed Stock	£45,500
New Government House Debentures ...	1,000

On £40,000 of the Local Inscribed Stock the rate of interest is 4¼ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first-mentioned sum was raised in 1893-4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The tenth annual instalment of £1,000, payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the sinking fund created in connection with the loan, was remitted to London last year.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting St. George's with the main Island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by the hurricane in September, 1899. Instalments, amounting to £1,650, towards the sinking fund created in connection with this loan, have been remitted to London for investment. The stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

The average rate of interest on the Government House Debentures is 4⅜ per cent. The original amount of the debt was £11,600. According to the tenor and effect of the debentures now outstanding, they are redeemable as follows:—1907, £400; 1908, £500; 1909, £100; so that no further reduction of this debt, which now amounts to £1,000, can be effected before 1907.

All the loans referred to were raised locally.

(E.) Currency.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government bank. The paper money in circulation consists of a limited number of Bank of England notes and United States "Green Backs." Owing to the scarcity of gold during the past year, the number of these notes in circulation has increased considerably, and they are accepted generally, although not at the banks, at a premium, owing to the fact that they can be used for remittance purposes through letter post. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two local banks, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited, both incorporated by local Acts.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments in the Colony, issues bills of exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

The Colonial Government keeps a current account with the Bank of Bermuda and with the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son to the extent of a maximum deposit of £4,000 at each bank, against which deposits the banks give security to the full maximum amount.

Owing to the reduction in the Naval and Military Establishments, the disbursements by the Treasury Chest Officer have been much less, and considerable inconvenience and difficulty have been experienced by the mercantile community in obtaining adequate exchange for purposes of ordinary business. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining Treasury bills a considerable amount of specie in gold has been exported during the latter part of 1905.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £10,000) in 1905 was £543,222.

Compared with 1904, this shews a decrease of £46,757.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1901 to 1905 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1901 ...	500,716	142,911	41,167	11,399	296,937	8,302
1902 ...	546,141	155,675	52,110	13,523	321,487	3,346
1903 ...	539,688	172,347	65,637	9,457	289,239	3,008
1904 ...	590,000	190,995	80,150	12,705	295,054	5,096
1905 ...	543,222	179,050	81,146	12,409	264,797	5,820

In the above figures the value of the Government stores—civil, naval, and military—is not included.

The value of the principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1905, compared with 1904, was:—

Article.	Value.	
	1905.	1904.
	£	£
Clothing	18,720	19,488
Cotton Goods	19,574	20,980
Fancy Goods	3,290	4,269
Canned Fruit and Meats	2,963	3,319
Oilmen's Stores	15,832	17,392
Silk Goods	6,854	2,421
Rice	1,683	1,414
Sugar	2,424	1,997
Coals	1,855	—
Woollen Goods	7,836	10,715
Machinery	1,874	9,296
Metal Manufactures	2,841	5,942
Malt Liquor	21,916	28,510
Whisky	4,804	4,367
Wine	2,868	4,023
Hardware	1,895	2,272
Building Material	9,525	9,977
Drugs	2,129	2,635
Earthenware	966	1,424
Glassware	1,587	1,869
Stationery	1,379	1,887
Jewellery	3,774	3,982
Leather, Manufactured	1,810	2,306
Cigars and Cigarettes	4,112	4,433

The principal imports from Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1905.	1904.
	£	£
Box Material	4,992	8,314
Butter	12,746	11,422
Fish (Preserved)	6,186	5,842
Flour	11,813	10,119
Horses	2,316	2,864
Bran	2,810	3,521
Cheese	3,668	3,197
Hay	2,704	2,952
Leather, Manufactured	799	1,255
Oats	6,908	8,493
Lumber	1,336	8,113
Potatoes	3,305	4,593

The total value of imports from Canada for the year 1905 was £81,146, being £5,004 less than in 1904. This decrease is mainly due to decrease in imports of box material, bran, oats, and lumber. There was an increase in the value of imports under almost every other heading.

The principal imports from the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1905.	1904.
	£	£
Beef	12,535	12,061
Bran	3,021	2,845
Butter	7,026	7,079
Coals	4,801	—
Cotton Goods...	9,920	10,941
Fertilizers	4,720	6,364
Fancy Goods...	2,466	2,625
Flour	9,844	15,313
Canned Fruit and Meats	8,475	8,098
Groceries	6,251	7,747
Hardware	6,424	7,396
Leather, Manufactured	13,174	15,724
Lumber	8,988	8,930
Kerosene Oil	7,971	9,881
Oats	4,656	2,634
Provisions	17,870	19,211
Oxen and Cows	28,221	26,538
Sheep	2,075	4,308
Sugar	7,761	5,759
Tobacco	1,516	1,628
Building Material	4,163	6,591
Carriages	1,799	1,279
Cheese...	1,413	2,178
Clothing	5,601	5,757
Corn	5,175	5,250
Drugs	5,254	5,774
Furniture	5,364	6,382
Metal, Manufactured	5,629	6,179
Bicycles	786	1,656
Horses...	1,879	3,129
Machinery	3,649	3,122

The total value of imports from the United States of America for the year was £264,797, as against £295,054 in 1904, and £290,587 in 1903.

During the year 68,203 dozen eggs, at a declared value of £3,312, fruit valued at £5,765, and vegetables valued at £2,901, were imported into the Colony.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £41,993) in 1905 was £116,428.

Compared with 1904 this shews a decrease of £13,877, and a decrease by £4,622 on the average of the preceding five years.

The following is a comparative table of the value of exports (exclusive of specie) for the five years from 1901 to 1905 inclusive:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1901 ...	3,333	1,036	3,456	90,654	—	98,479
1902 ...	6,328	1,753	2,202	100,730	122	111,135
1903 ...	3,806	5,032	4,256	112,249	—	125,343
1904 ...	3,785	4,606	3,710	118,184	—	130,305
1905 ...	4,727	2,973	5,031	103,508	189	116,428

The principal exports to the United Kingdom in 1905, compared with 1904, were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1905.	1904.
	£	£
Arrowroot	850	1,192
Bulbs	842	479
Hides	644	390
Tallow...	207	439

The principal exports to the United States were:—

Article.	Value	
	1905.	1904.
	£	£
Bulbs	6,417	8,471
Hides	1,000	1,183
Onions...	60,597	72,259
Potatoes	22,964	25,274
Miscellaneous Vegetables	5,952	3,617

The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £103,651, as against £115,312 for 1904. Of this £2,849 was exported to the United Kingdom, £3,060 to British Colonies, and £97,742 to the United States of America.

(B.) Manufactures and Fisheries.

Manufactures.

There are two ice factories, which manufacture most of the ice locally consumed.

There is one arrowroot factory, which is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this valuable commodity.

The arrowroot manufactured in the Colony is of an excellent quality and commands a high price in home and foreign markets. The price (retail) per lb. in London is about 2*s.* 6*d.*, as compared with 1*s.* and 9*d.* per lb. for St. Vincent and other arrowroot. The cultivation and manufacture of this product should be increased.

Fisheries.

There are no organised fisheries in the Colony.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets continues to be the chief agricultural industry of these Islands. The principal market is New York. The exportation of kitchen garden produce, such as lettuce, parsley, celery, carrots, beets, &c., to meet the demand for such products in New York in the early part of the year has increased considerably during the last three years. The value of such products exported to New York in 1905 is just double the value of those exported in 1903.

The Legislature placed at the disposal of the Board of Agriculture during the past year the sum of £1,000 to encourage the export of produce to markets other than those of the United States. It was decided to make shipments of onions during the season to the principal cities of Canada, and a special agent went to Canada from Bermuda to superintend the distribution and sale of the shipment. A shipment of onions was also made to London during the year. The results of both shipments proved unsatisfactory, and it is not likely that these experiments will be repeated.

The potato crop of 1905 was a large one. The quantities exported were as follows:—34,067 barrels and 55 boxes, of a declared value of £24,984. The quantity exported in 1904 was 34,707 barrels and 65 boxes, of a declared value of £26,014. The quality of the potatoes placed on the market was excellent. Prices started well, but fell early in the season and remained low—sales were made at 8*s*. per barrel. The fall in price was attributed to a large supply of good potatoes being received in New York from the Southern States of America.

The onion crop was an exceptionally large one. Prices were good at the opening of the season, but dropped suddenly, and remained at such a low figure as to render it unprofitable to export towards the end of the season, and large quantities of reaped onions were allowed to rot in the fields. The cause of the drop in price was attributed to over production and to the presence of an extra large and good supply of Texan onions in the New York market. The quantity and declared value of the export was as follows:—

399,916 crates and 137 barrels; declared value £62,465.

The quantities for the previous year were:—

387,839 crates and 186 barrels; declared value £74,162.

The lily bulb crop was again a small one and the prices poor, as compared with former years. 8,945 packages were exported at a declared value of £7,264, as against 8,938 packages exported in 1904, at a value of £8,976. The value of 8,274 packages in 1902 was declared at £21,058. This industry is apparently declining rapidly, the average quality of bulbs now grown being inferior. The industry is now only a source of profit to those farmers who give close attention to the quality of the bulbs planted and exported.

The export of arrowroot amounted to 5 tons 12 cwt., valued at £840, as against 10 tons 2 cwt., exported in 1904, valued at £1,398.

There was a large increase in the export of vegetables other than onions and potatoes:—48,155 packages, valued at £6,046, as against 29,038 in 1904, valued at £3,637.

(D.) The Public Garden.

The Public Garden, which is supported chiefly as an experimental agricultural station, is under the control and management of the Board of Agriculture.

The work of the Garden, under Mr. T. J. Harris, the Superintendent, was directed during the year chiefly towards the collection and distribution of information regarding diseases and remedies and cultural errors in regard to the staple crops of the Islands. Researches and experiments were also conducted in regard to the cultivation of new crops.

Experiments in the growing of onion seed were continued in order that the farmers of the Colony might be independent of seed imported from Teneriffe. The Superintendent of the Garden is of opinion that the only apparent obstacle to the successful growing of seed is the prevalent onion disease "thrip," and that the "sets," even in their dormant state, were infected with the disease. These experiments will be continued.

Experiments were also carried on in the cultivation of new varieties of potatoes.

Mr. Harris reports that he is satisfied that the failure of recent lily crops was due, not so much to disease, as to errors in cultivation, and to the careless handling of the bulbs.

During the year a preliminary experiment was conducted of growing Sumatra wrapper tobacco under tent cloth on the lines practised in Florida and Connecticut, U.S.A. The result of this experiment was on the whole satisfactory, and a further experiment on a larger scale will be made during the present year. Mr. Harris concludes his report on this subject as follows:—"I have no hesitation in affirming from the information acquired during this crop with regard to the effects of the climate and soil conditions and insect pests, that excellent wrapper tobacco can be successfully grown."

Valuable suggestions have been made by Mr. Harris in his annual report relative to the resuscitation of fruit cultivation, and as regards the methods to be adopted for preserving fruit from the ravages of the "fruit fly." He has also recommended that attention be given to the cultivation of the Canary Island banana (*Musa cavendishii*), being of opinion that it probably thrives better in Bermuda than in any other part of the world. He directs attention to defects in the existing methods of propagation and cultivation. There is evidently a good demand for that class of banana in the United States. There are, at present, not more than thirty acres under banana cultivation, and the growing of this product might be largely extended.

Advantage was taken during the year of the direct steam service of the steamer of Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co. to forward shipments of bananas, melons, and vegetables to the London market, and encouraging reports were received with regard to the sale of the shipments. The direct steam service referred to has, however, been discontinued, and there is little hope of the Colony securing a permanent service of ships suitably fitted to carry such produce to England.

(E.) Shipping.

The total tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1905, in comparison with 1904, is shewn on the following table:—

Vessels Entered and Cleared.

—	1905.			1904.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	590,874	2,911	593,785	529,827	11,628	541,455
American... ...	5,148	10,816	15,964	495	12,907	13,402
Austrian	8,074	—	8,074	—	—	—
French	—	—	—	4,400	—	4,400
German	20,152	—	20,152	12,586	2,508	15,094
Italian	—	—	—	18,054	—	18,054
Norwegian ...	20,146	1,476	21,622	9,774	3,370	13,144
Swedish	2,912	—	2,912	—	—	—
Spanish	—	—	—	6,434	—	6,434
Danish	8,952	—	8,952	5,271	—	5,271
Total ...	656,258	15,203	671,461	586,841	30,413	617,254

Shipping entered and cleared for last five years:—

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons
1901	709,795	222,458
1902	574,487	133,930
1903	481,085	69,544
1904	541,455	75,799
1905	593,785	87,676

III.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislature was convened on the 31st day of May, 1905, and at the end of the year was still in session.

Thirty-nine Acts were passed during the year, of which the following may be taken as the most important:—

No. 2. The Dockyard Port Act, 1905.—This enactment, which defines a portion of Grassy Bay, Ireland Island, as a dockyard port for Imperial purposes, and constitutes the Admiralty the Harbour Authority with respect to the dockyard port and the ship channel leading thereto from the eastward, is a most important one from an Imperial as well as a local point of view.

No. 4. The Supreme Court Act, 1905.—This is a most useful measure, which centres in the Supreme Court the jurisdiction formerly possessed by six other courts.

No. 6. The Bermuda Volunteer Act, 1905.—This measure makes provision for the cost from Colonial funds of the establishment of a Volunteer Reserve. This is the first occasion for many years that the House of Assembly has recognised the obligation of the Colony to contribute towards the cost of the defence of these Islands.

No. 8. The Public Officers' Salaries Act, 1905.—This Act classifies in five divisions, for the purpose of salary, the subordinate officers in the public service, and increases the salaries attached to most of those offices, and establishes the principle, in a uniform manner, of attaching a minimum and maximum salary for each office.

No. 20. The Evidence (Consolidation and Amendment) Act, 1905.—This useful measure embodies the statute law of the Colony relating to evidence, and, in addition, makes some much needed amendments on the subject, especially with regard to the proof of deeds and other documents executed out of Bermuda.

No. 21. The Bermuda Scholarship Act, 1905.—This measure is intended to encourage and assist youths who are natives of the Colony to proceed abroad at the age of seventeen years to prepare themselves for election as Rhodes Scholars and to preserve to the Colony the advantages to be derived from the provisions of Mr. Rhodes's will.

No. 25. The Appeals Act, 1905.—This enactment provides for a uniform method for prosecuting appeals to the Supreme Court, both in respect to criminal and civil appeals.

No. 27. The Marriage Act, 1905.—This Act is in the main a consolidation of the Acts of 1847, and embodies certain regulations made by the Governor as ordinary, which had for many years been in force as to the issue of marriage licences.

No. 30. The Public Health Act, 1905.—This measure extends the powers of the General Board of Health to a certain extent, and will enable that Board to deal with local matters with respect to which the Local Boards refuse or neglect to act. It also increases the annual grant placed at the disposal of the General Board for the purposes of the Public Health Acts.

No. 31. The Medical Registration Act, 1905.—This is one of the most important measures passed during the present session. From the date of the coming into operation of the Act no person is permitted to practise medicine or surgery for gain who has not been duly registered, and such registration is subject to the production by the applicant of a prescribed certificate from a Medical Board constituted under the Act.

No. 39. The Pilot Act, 1905.—The main object of this Act was to transfer to the Board of Pilot Commissioners the power hitherto conferred on Police Magistrates and Justices of the Peace to hear and dispose of complaints against pilots for offences, and to make a fixed annual grant for pilotage purposes in lieu of passing the usual annual resolve for this purpose.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—Twenty-six aided primary schools, with 1,760 scholars (877 boys and 883 girls); school fees, £957; Government contributions, £1,492. One aided secondary school, with 41 scholars (25 boys and 16 girls); school fees, £138; Government contributions, £50.

The schools referred to are private schools aided by grants from the Colonial Treasury. Eight of them are attended by white children, and conducted by white teachers; eighteen of them are attended by coloured children, under coloured teachers. None of them are free schools, the fee charged in most cases being 3*d*. per week. The Legislature provides an annual sum of £2,000 to aid in the working of the 26 schools referred to, and also in the working of one secondary school. This grant is administered by a Board of Education, presided over and appointed by the Governor. The aided schools are inspected regularly by an Inspector of Schools.

In addition to three military schools and two naval schools, there are other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are four secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys; the Berkeley Institute, for coloured boys and girls; the Convent School, and High School, for white girls; all of which are situated in or near the city of Hamilton.

Thirty-six candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last for the Bermuda Centre—six seniors, eight juniors, and twenty-two preliminary students. Of these candidates twenty-four passed—three seniors, six juniors, and fifteen preliminary. Six of the candidates obtained honours.

In the year 1903 a Commission was appointed by the Governor to inquire into the working of the Schools Acts and other matters connected with the education of the youth of the

Colony. In September, 1905, a Bill was introduced into the House of Assembly to give effect to the recommendation of a Committee of the Assembly appointed to report on the Commission's Report. The Bill was lost in the Assembly. It is proposed to introduce a Bill on similar lines during the next session of the Legislature.

The Legislature, on the application of the Board of Education, provided a sum of £100, in addition to the usual education grant to enable the Board to arrange for the delivery of special lectures to school teachers. During the early part of the year, a course of instruction in practical cookery was given by a qualified teacher to the female teachers and assistant teachers of the aided schools. Thirty teachers attended the course regularly; and the interest displayed in the instruction and the results of the examinations—both theoretical and practical—that followed the instruction, induced the Board to arrange for a similar course to be given during the early part of 1906, with a view of introducing the instruction into the schools at an early date.

There are now two Bermuda Rhodes Scholars in residence at Oxford.

Notice has been taken under the heading "Legislation" of the passing by the Legislature during the year of the Bermuda Scholarship Act, which provides one scholarship annually of the value of £150, and tenable for two years, to enable youths educated in Bermuda to proceed abroad at the age of 17 or over to prepare themselves for nomination to a Rhodes Scholarship. The first scholarship was awarded in October, 1905, to Mr. J. T. Gilbert, junior, who entered Bedford Grammar School.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospitals.

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government. There is a cottage hospital near the city of Hamilton, which is supported by voluntary contributions.

The Legislature had under consideration at the close of the year proposals for the establishment of a general hospital, to be supported mainly from public funds, to take the place of the cottage hospital. No final decision in the matter had been taken at the close of the year.

Hospitals are maintained in connection with the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments.

(B.) Lunatic Asylum.

An asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in the Colony in 1846.

The Medical Officer of Health is the medical superintendent of the institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants. Six patients (five male and one female) were admitted into the asylum in 1905. Five patients were discharged. The daily average number of patients was 53 (32 males and 21 females).

During the year works were taken in hand for the extension of the accommodation at the asylum, and for the re-arrangement and improvement of some portions of the old buildings.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1905, was 1,861, having an aggregate sum of £42,243 to their credit, as compared with 1,961 depositors in 1904, having £44,913 to their credit. The amount of deposits during the year was £16,508, as against £19,931 in 1904.

The amount of invested funds of the bank on the 31st December, 1905, was £51,127 at par, equal to £45,503 at market value of consols on 31st December, 1905. The cash in the hands of the Receiver-General and managers on 31st December, 1905, was £1,334.

By Act No. 41 of 1902, the rate of interest allowed on deposits from 1st January, 1903, was reduced from 2½ to 2 per cent.

The decrease in the transactions of the Savings Bank during 1905 is due to agricultural depression and also to the return of a large number of West Indians to their homes, following the closing down of the Dockyard Extension Works.

(F.) Friendly Societies.

The number of Friendly Societies on the register on 31st December, 1905, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The regular police force consists of 1 inspector, 3 chief constables, and 22 regular police constables. There are in addition 21 salaried rural police constables appointed by the Governor.

Under the provisions of the Police Act, 1901, the Governor is empowered to employ in any temporary emergency or for any special occasion extra constables not exceeding 20 in number, and may authorize the employment of an unlimited number of special constables on the application of the Inspector of Police or other persons. Special constables are not remunerated from the public treasury.

The cost of the police establishment in 1905 was:—

Salaries (inclusive of the salaries of the three police magistrates)	£3,188 10 8
Other charges	347 17 1
Total	£3,536 7 9

The cost of the establishment in the previous year was £3,711 1*s.* 11*d.*

(B.) Prisons.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 110 (108 males and 2 females), as against 161 (148 males and 13 females) in 1904. Of these, 59 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 51 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1905 was £1,609 7*s.* 10*d.*, as compared with £1,858 in 1904.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 514—a decrease, compared with 1904, of 138, and with 1903 of 210.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 405, of whom 305 were summarily convicted, 35 discharged for want of evidence, 49 acquitted, and 16 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 305 persons summarily convicted, 234 were fined, 12 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 31 peremptorily imprisoned, and 11 bound over to keep the peace.

Twenty-five cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, as compared with 30 in the previous year, and the convictions numbered 13; of these, four were for offences against the person, and six for offences against property.

The above returns shew a general decrease in crime as compared with those of the previous year.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

At the census taken on the 31st March, 1901, the resident civilian population was returned at 17,535 persons, the white population numbering 6,383 (3,149 males and 3,234 females), the coloured, 11,152 (5,457 males and 5,695 females).

The Registrar-General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1905 consisted of 20,209 persons, consisting of 7,053 white (3,547 males and 3,506 females), and 13,156 coloured (6,535 males and 6,621 females), an increase, as compared with 1904, of three persons.

The estimated total population, including the Naval and Military Establishments, was 24,269 persons.

The birth-rate was 36·8, and the death-rate 19·9 per 1,000.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 15·8 to 100 births.

(B.) Public Health.

The state of the public health during the year was exceptionally good.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1905 was 4,561, and the deaths were 13; the rate of mortality thus being about 3·20 per 1,000.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been good. The average strength of the garrison was 2,359. Number of admissions to hospital, 775. Ratio of admissions per 1,000 of strength 328·53. Number of deaths, nine. Average number of daily sick, 52·44. Average strength of officers, 82; cases of sickness, 40; deaths, none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 245. There were two deaths.

The average daily mean strength of the naval forces in the Colony during the year 1905, corrected for the time each ship remained in port, was 1,702. This included men employed in the Dockyard and the Naval Hospital.

(D.) Meteorological Observations.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, shew as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·128 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70·5 degrees; mean relative humidity, 87·9 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 5·8 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 60·56 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 1·83 inches less; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 179.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Postal Service.

There are 19 post offices in the Colony, and three money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office Department in 1905 was £5,935, compared with a revenue of £6,307 in 1904. The expenditure was £5,595, compared with £5,034 in 1904.

The net revenue derived from the Post Office in 1905 was thus £340, as compared with £1,273 in 1904.

The sum of £4,089 6*s.* 1*d.* was paid out in the Colony on money orders from abroad, as compared with £3,967 in 1904.

The amount paid into the Post Office on account of money orders for abroad during the year was £22,825 4*s.* 5*d.*, as compared with £26,003 in 1904. As was the case in previous years a large proportion of these remittances was from West Indian immigrants to their families in the West Indies. These remittances amounted to £4,429, those to the United Kingdom £8,517, to the United States of America £1,388, and to Canada £1,231. It is estimated that the number of letters dealt with during the year was 1,364,928; newspapers, book-packets, and circulars, 478,367; post-cards, 197,676; and parcels, 10,582.

The falling off in the revenue of the Post Office is attributed to the decrease in the civilian population and also to the reduction of the Naval and Military Establishments.

The increase in expenditure was due to the increased cost of transport of inland mails due to the establishment of special

mail conveyances, also to the revision of the salaries paid to the sub-postmasters and letter carriers. Hitherto the salaries paid to the sub-postmasters included the cost of delivery in the country districts. Their salaries were revised and special allowances granted to remunerate letter carriers. It is hoped that the steps taken in this respect have led to increased efficiency in the postal department.

On the 1st of January, 1905, the system of issuing British postal orders both for internal and foreign purposes, was inaugurated. The service is being largely used by the public. The amount paid into the Post Office on account of these orders was £7,257 14*s.* 1*d.* during the year.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

There is no inland telegraph.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which companies are under subsidies from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world through Halifax on the one hand and Turks Island and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Island and Jamaica in 1898. The Company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George's for the use of the public.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

Governor's salary	£2,199
Military Establishments	£205,797

Compared with 1904, the latter returns shew a decrease of £69,569.

The expenditure on the Naval Establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular military forces at Bermuda in 1905 was 2,359, and the average strength of the naval forces, 1,702.

Return of Militia.—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 238 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers.—Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps, 319 officers and men.

The expenditure during the year on account of the Militia was £2,119, and that on account of the Volunteers, £701. This expenditure was borne entirely by the Imperial Government.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. C. V. Ingham, M.C.P., was appointed on the 7th February, 1905, to be an Assistant Justice of the Court of Assize.

Miss Lilian Smith and Miss Viva Smith were appointed Clerks in the Hamilton Post Office on the 31st March, 1905.

Dr. R. R. Higinbotham was appointed Surgeon to the St. George's Gaol on the 22nd April, 1905, vice Dr. T. A. Outerbridge, deceased.

The Hon. Eyre Hutson, Colonial Secretary and Registrar-General, proceeded to England on the 22nd April, 1905, on leave of absence for two months. Mr. F. G. Gosling, Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed to act as Colonial Secretary and Registrar-General.

Lieutenant-General Sir R. M. Stewart, K.C.B., proceeded to England on three months leave of absence on the 10th July, 1905, and the administration of the Government was assumed by Colonel A. N. Roberts, A.S.C., Senior Officer in command of the troops.

The appointment of Mr. Grosvenor H. St. G. Tucker as Immigration Officer, Hamilton, was confirmed on the 9th July, 1905.

The Hon. Eyre Hutson, Colonial Secretar was appointed on the 28t' November, 1905, to be Chairman of the Board of Pilot Commi ioners, vice Captain H. H. Bruce, R.N., Captain in Charge, resigned.

The Worshipful R. W. Appleby, Police Magistrate of Hamilton, was appointed on the 28th November, 1905, a member of the Board of Pilot Commissioners, vice the Hon. F. W. Major, resigned.

Immigration.

Immigration during 1905 was checked by the reduction in the Naval and Military Establishments and by the gradual reduction in the number of labourers employed by the contractors for the Dockyard Extension Works. In fact there was a large exodus from the Colony of West Indians.

The excess of emigration over immigration for the year 1905 is estimated to have been 338. The excess of males was 339 and there was a decrease of one female. Among the civilian white population it is estimated that there was an increase of immigration over emigration of 154 (100 males and 54 females). Among the coloured population it is estimated that there was an increase of emigration over immigration of 492 (439 males and 53 females).

GENERAL REMARKS.

Owing to the reduction in the Naval and Military Establishments, to the failure in the export business of the staple crops of the Colony during the year 1905, to the gradual closing down of the Imperial public works, and to the anticipation of no increase in the immediate future of the winter tourist business owing to the inadequacy of hotel accommodation—the general outlook of the Colony at the close of the year was not a bright one. It appears to be generally acknowledged that the boom in business generally which has been enjoyed for four consecutive years, has come to an end.

The revenue of the Colony, which is derived almost entirely from Customs duties, had declined, and it will, unless increased taxation is resorted to, probably decline still further until the amount drops to that which previous to the year 1901 used to be considered the average annual revenue of the Colony, viz., about £40,000. The necessity for increasing taxation has apparently been foreseen by the House of Assembly. A committee of the House has been appointed to submit recommendations at the opening of the annual session for 1906 for raising additional revenue, should it be found necessary to do so, in order to meet the obligations and requirements of the Colony, both for public works which have been approved, and at the same time to cover a small increase to the ordinary and fixed expenditure. I remarked in my Annual Report for 1903 that the taxation per head of the inhabitants is low, and, if found necessary, the community can well afford a sacrifice in the way of increased taxation on the part of each individual for the common weal.

Towards the close of the year the question of the extension and improvement of hotel accommodation to meet any increase in the tourist business which may offer, and in order thereby to make the resort more attractive to a special class of tourists, was taken up in earnest by the Corporation of Hamilton. I venture to express the opinion that the people of the Colony should do everything in their power to foster and extend the tourist business. The increase and improvement of the hotel accommodation alone will not be sufficient. Winter resorts now are not what they used to be ten years ago. Every tourist now,

especially American, whether he goes abroad because he is obliged to do so for health reasons, or whether he leaves his home for pleasure, expects to find in the winter resort selected some reasonable means of "killing time" agreeably. He cannot and will not live on scenery alone; and the weather in Bermuda in the winter months is not always fine.

There is another matter which affects the tourist traffic, and that is, the apparently acknowledged insufficiency of the means of frequent communication with New York. Adequate communication, in order to meet demands of the day, will, in my opinion, never be secured until Bermuda ceases to be the terminus of the voyage from New York. The steamers touching at these Islands to and from New York, whether they be steamers of the Quebec Steamship Company, or whether they belong to any other company, should make Bermuda a calling port to and from some other winter resorts, further south, either Cuba, Jamaica, or the Bahamas, or all of them. Such a change would lead probably to the extension of the winter tourist season for Bermuda owing to the fact that tourists who are obliged to leave Cuba, Jamaica, and the Bahamas early in April might stop at Bermuda for a month or more on their voyage north.

Sir Thiselton Dyer, late Director of Kew Gardens, in an official communication some years ago concerning these Islands, remarked that the value of Bermuda agriculturally consisted, in his opinion, in the fact that the position and climate of the Colony made it possible for it to become the market garden of New York and the Northern States of America. It is pleasing to be able to record that the farmers of the Colony seem to be realising that other products besides onions and potatoes are remunerative crops. It seems to me that the future of the Colony agriculturally lies chiefly in that direction.

I have, &c.,

EYRE HUTSON,

Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency

Sir Robert MacGregor Stewart, K.C.B.,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief,

&c., &c., &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
457	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1904
458	Straits Settlements	"
459	Southern Nigeria	"
460	Sierra Leone	"
461	British Solomon Islands	1903–1905
462	Malta	1904–1905
463	Grenada	1904
464	St. Vincent	"
465	Gold Coast	"
466	Barbados	1904–1905
467	Uganda Protectorate	"
468	Somaliland Protectorate	"
469	Trinidad and Tobago	"
470	Lagos	1904
471	Bahamas,..	1904–1905
472	British Central Africa Protectorate	"
473	Mauritius	1904
474	Fiji	"
475	East Africa Protectorate	1904–1905
476	Northern Nigeria	1904
477	British Guiana	1904–1905
478	Leeward Islands	"
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
480	Basutoland	"
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia	"
483	Ashanti	1905

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone ...	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	*Northern Nigeria*	*Cotton*, &c.
32	Do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis ...	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 528.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1906.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 484.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1907.

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No. 528.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1905, *see* No. 484.)

THE GOVERNOR to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Bermuda.

31st May, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith for Your Lordship's information the Annual Report on the Blue Book for the year 1906, which has been prepared by Mr. Hutson, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

R. M. STEWART,

Lieut.-General, Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Honourable

The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.

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Colonial Secretary's Office,

Bermuda,

31st May, 1907.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1906.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £53,213, being £108 less than the revenue for 1905, which was £53,321.

The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1906 with that for 1905:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1905	44.855	8,466	53,321
1906	37,269	15,944	53,213
Decrease...	7,586	—	108
Increase	—	7,478	—

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1905	21,356	43,951	65,307
1906	23,496	45,568	69,064
Increase	2,140	1,617	3,757

The return of revenue for the year under review shews that there was a decrease in the gross receipts, as compared with those in 1905, amounting to £108. The decrease in "Customs Duties" amounted to £7,586. The falling off in revenue was due chiefly to depression in trade caused by the reduction of the Naval and Military Establishments, to the completion during the year of the Dockyard Extension Works, and also the reduction in the spending powers of the whole resident community, caused by low prices obtained for some of the staple agricultural products of the Colony. Included in the

total revenue, viz.: £53,213, is a sum of £7,002, being a loan repaid to the Treasury by the Savings Bank. If this sum be deducted, the revenue received from ordinary sources during the year was only £46,211.

The revenue, which amounted to £53,213 8*s.* 10*d.*, was made up as follows:—

—	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ad valorem Duty	18,235	7	6
Specific Duty	19,033	17	11
Other Receipts	15,944	3	5
Total	53,213	8	10

Heads of Increase.

Heads of Increase.	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Arrowroot	67	16	2
Tobacco	476	8	11
Fines of Court	35	16	0
Repayment of Loans to Savings Bank.	7,002	13	4
Miscellaneous Receipts	16	8	3
Reimbursements to Government	856	15	4

Heads of Decrease.

Heads of Decrease.	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ad valorem Duties	3,439	3	0
Bananas	50	5	6
Poultry (dead)	47	5	8
Cigars and Cigarettes	688	2	0
Eggs	503	3	2
Malt Liquor	2,780	6	1
Rum	123	9	2
Other Spirits	168	8	0
Wines	130	6	4
Postal Revenue	282	1	10
Immigration	33	0	0
Lighthouse Tolls...	109	9	2
Bicycles	15	0	0

Expenditure.

The principal increases appear in the following items:—

—	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*
Colonial Secretary	92	18	6
Annuities and Gratuities ...	74	18	1
Refund of Duty	996	18	8
Educational	743	11	3
Gaols	407	7	0
Legislative	664	11	1
Loans (to Savings Bank) ...	1,000	0	0
Miscellaneous Payments ...	2,712	17	1
Post Office	837	1	1
Superannuation	19	16	9
Pilotage	150	9	4
Public Health	483	14	6
Library and Museum	174	8	8
Lunatic Asylum	431	11	7
Registration	87	6	0

Principal Heads of Decrease.

—	Amount.		
	£	*s.*	*d*
Receiver-General...	32	10	6
Colonial Surveyor	3,260	18	0
Agriculture	1,103	11	2
Immigration	45	10	6
Judicial	384	19	11
Police	106	15	5
Ecclesiastical	210	0	0

(B.) Revenue and Expenditure for last Five Years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1902	56,666	52,308
1903	57,169	55,503
1904	63,457	61,133
1905	53,321	65,307
1906	53,213	69,064

As stated above, the actual revenue for 1906 received from ordinary sources was £46,211, which shews a decrease, as compared with that of the previous year, of £7,110, and of £14,746, as compared with that for 1904.

The gross expenditure for 1906 was £69,064, shewing apparently an increase over that for 1905 of £3,757. A sum of £1,996 of this increase was due to increase in refund of duty and of loans to the Savings Bank. The actual increase of ordinary expenditure, as compared with that for 1905, was therefore £1,761.

The excess of expenditure over revenue for the year was £15,851. If the sum of £1,996 referred to above be excluded, the excess amounted to £13,855.

The cash balance in hand on the 31st December, 1906, was £293, as against £16,144 at the end of 1905, and £28,130 at the end of 1904. During the year the Savings Bank repaid all loans made thereto by the Treasury with the exception of a sum of £4,492 advanced by the Treasury since the adjustment of the affairs of the Bank in 1902 on account of interest to depositors, cost of management, audit, &c. Should this latter amount be taken into consideration the balance of funds at the end of 1906 available for Treasury purposes was £4,785.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony at the end of 1906 were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Cash in the Treasury	293	0	0
Advances made to Savings Bank on account of interest, cost of management, &c.	4,492	0	0
	£4,785	0	0

There were no liabilities on 31st December, 1906, beyond the Public Debt, which is separately dealt with.

(D.) Public Debt.

The public debt at the end of 1906 amounted to £46,500, made up as follows:—

Local Inscribed Stock	£45,500
New Government House Debentures ...	1,000

On £40,000 of the local inscribed stock the rate of interest is 4½ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first-mentioned sum was raised in 1893-4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The eleventh instalment of £1,000, payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the sinking fund created in connection with the loan, was remitted to London last year.

The amount of £5,500 was ra sed early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting

St. George's with the main island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by the hurricane in September, 1899. Instalments, amounting to £1,950, towards the sinking fund created in connection with this loan, have been remitted to London for investment. The stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

The average rate of interest on the Government House Debentures is 4⅜ per cent. The original amount of the debt was £11,600. According to the tenor and effect of the debentures now outstanding, they are redeemable as follows:—1907, £400; 1908, £500; 1909, £100.

All the loans referred to were raised locally.

(E.) Currency.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government bank. The paper money in circulation consists of a limited number of Bank of England notes and United States "Green Backs." The number of these latter notes in circulation has increased considerably, and they are accepted generally, although not at the banks, at a premium, owing to the fact that they can be used for remittance purposes through letter post. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two local banks, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited, both incorporated by local Acts.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments in the Colony issues Bills of Exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

The Colonial Government keeps a current account with the Bank of Bermuda and with the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son to the extent of a maximum deposit of £4,000 at each bank, against which deposits the banks give security to the full maximum amount.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £5,500) in 1906, was £398,176.

Compared with 1905, this shews a decrease of £145,046.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1902 to 1906, inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1902 ...	546,141	155,675	52,110	13,523	321,487	3,346
1903 ...	539,688	172,347	65,637	9,457	289,239	3,008
1904 ...	590,000	190,995	86,150	12,705	295,054	5,096
1905 ...	543,222	179,050	81,146	12,409	264,797	5,820
1906 ...	398,176	111,993	55,451	9,757	218,202	2,773

In the above figures the value of the Government stores—civil, military, and naval—is not included.

The value of the principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1906, compared with 1905, was:—

Article.	Value.	
	1906.	1905.
	£	£
Clothing	17,180	18,720
Cotton Goods...	17,886	19,574
Fancy Goods	1,634	3,290
Canned Fruit and Meats	1,358	2,963
Oilmen's Stores	10,778	15,832
Silk Goods	5,046	6,854
Rice	1,620	1,683
Sugar	1,623	2,424
Coals	260	1,855
Woollen Goods	6,893	7,836
Machinery	712	1,874
Metal Manufactures...	452	2,841
Malt Liquor	14,201	21,916
Whisky	2,051	4,804
Wine	2,048	2,868
Hardware	1,547	1,895
Building Material	1,655	9,525
Drugs	1,263	2,129
Earthenware	967	966
Glassware	816	1,587
Stationery	1,123	1,379
Jewellery	2,118	3,774
Leather, Manufactured	1,491	1,810
Cigars and Cigarettes	2,280	4,112

The principal imports from Canada were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1906.	1905.
	£	£
Box Material...	3,302	4,992
Butter...	9,824	12,746
Fish (Preserved)	5,017	6,186
Flour	5,671	11,813
Horses	230	2,316
Bran	2,286	2,810
Cheese	2,390	3,668
Hay	2,392	2,704
Leather, Manufactured	774	799
Oats	5,963	6,908
Lumber	289	1,336
Potatoes	2,398	3,305

The total value of imports from Canada for the year 1906 was £55,451, being £25,695 less than in 1905. There was a decrease in the value of imports under almost every heading, especially in butter, flour, lumber, and box material.

The principal imports from the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1906.	1905.
	£	£
Beef	5,725	12,535
Bran	3,381	3,021
Butter	7,170	7,026
Coals	6,606	4,801
Cotton Goods...	8,460	9,920
Fertilizers	4,243	4,720
Fancy Goods...	2,038	2,466
Flour	10,314	9,844
Canned Fruit and Meats	4,054	8,475
Groceries	6,694	6,251
Hardware	4,251	6,424
Leather, Manufactured	10,786	13,174
Lumber	5,730	8,988
Kerosene Oil	6,373	7,971
Oats	4,494	4,656
Provisions	19,639	17,870
Oxen and Cows	22,908	28,221
Sheep	3,769	2,075
Sugar	4,423	7,761
Tobacco	675	1,516
Building Material	3,204	4,103
Carriages	754	1,799

Principal Imports from the United States—cont.

Article.	Value.	
	1906.	1905.
	£	£
Cheese...	1,873	1,413
Clothing	3,331	5,601
Corn	4,985	5,175
Drugs	4,027	5,254
Furniture	3,894	5,364
Metal, Manufactured	3,016	5,629
Bicycles	780	786
Horses...	1,142	1,879
Machinery	1,350	3,649

The total value of imports from the United States of America for the year was £218,202, as against £264,797 in 1905, and £295,054 in 1904.

During the year 26,259 dozen eggs, at a declared value of £1,348, fruit valued at £5,086, and vegetables valued at £1,371, were imported into the Colony.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £40,068) in 1906, was £121,295.

Compared with 1905 this shews an increase of £4,867, and an increase by £4,957 on the average of the preceding five years.

In the above comparison is included a sum of £28,675, being the declared value of naval dockyard contractor's plant returned to England on completion of works; and if this sum be deducted from total exports, the value of the exports for the year will shew a great falling off as compared with the value of the exports in late years.

The following is a comparative table of the value of exports (exclusive of specie) for the five years from 1902 to 1906, inclusive:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1902 ...	6,328	1,753	2,202	100,730	122	111,135
1903 ...	3,806	5,032	4,256	112,249	—	125,343
1904 ...	3,785	4,606	3,710	118,184	—	130,305
1905 ...	4,727	2,973	5,031	103,508	189	116,428
1906 ...	31,927	1,339	3,340	83,717	972	121,295

The principal exports to the United Kingdom in 1906, compared with 1905, were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1906.	1905.
	£	£
Arrowroot	1,194	850
Bulbs	613	842
Hides	575	644
Tallow...	304	207

The principal exports to the United States were:—

Article.	Value.	
	1906.	1905.
	£	£
Bulbs	8,199	6,417
HIdes	1,046	1,000
Onions	44,066	60,597
Potatoes	15,101	22,964
Miscellaneous Vegetables	6,074	5,952

The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £79,601, as against £103,651 for 1905. Of this £2,800 was exported to the United Kingdom, £1,410 to British Colonies, and £75,391 to the United States of America.

(B.) Manufactures and Fisheries.

Manufactures.

There are two ice factories, which manufacture most of the ice consumed locally.

There is one arrowroot factory, which is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this commodity.

The arrowroot manufactured in the Colony is of an excellent quality and commands a high price in home and foreign markets. The price (retaii) per lb. in London is about 2*s.* 6*d.*, as compared with 1*s.* 9*d.* per lb. for St. Vincent and other arrowroot. The cultivation and manufacture of this product should be increased.

A factory for the manufacture of cigars from imported tobacco was established in Hamilton in 1906.

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets continues to be the chief agricultural industry of these Islands. The principal market is New York. There is also a fairly large exportation of kitchen garden produce, such as lettuce, beans, peas, parsley, celery, carrots, beets, &c., to New York in the early part of the year.

The potato crop for 1906 was a small one. Disease was very prevalent, and caused a considerable falling off in the number exported. The quantities exported were as follows:—18,089 barrels and 237 crates of a declared value of £15,281. The quantity exported in 1905 was 34,067 barrels and 55 crates of a declared value of £24,984.

The onion crop was below the average. The failure to dispose profitably of the crop for 1905 no doubt had some bearing on the quantity grown in 1906. The average price for the season was 3*s.* 9*d.* as compared with 3*s.* 2*d.* in 1905. Some of the early shipments between the 11th March and 4th April realized 8*s.* 3*d.* per crate. After the latter date the price fell gradually until the middle of May, when the price per crate was 1*s.* 6*d.* Owing to the presence of the Texan onion in the New York market the value of the Bermuda onion crop now depends on its maturity at an early date in the year, and efforts are being made to secure seed that will produce an early crop. The quantity and declared value of onions exported during the year was as follows:—239,064 crates and 242 barrels of a declared value of £44,776. The export in 1905 was 399,916 crates and 137 barrels of a declared value of £62,465.

The lily bulb crop was again a small one. The quantity and declared value of the export was as follows:—5,093 packages of a declared value of £8,860, as against 8,945 packages valued at £7,264 in 1905.

The Superintendent of the Public Garden in his report for the year states that attention has been given to his remarks on the subject of lily cultivation, and that farmers now appreciate the necessity of growing only pure Harrisii stock, and that the more important growers can now guarantee to supply stock absolutely pure. It is to be hoped that confidence in Bermuda bulbs will thus be restored and the value of the industry revived.

The export of arrowroot for 1906 amounted to 9 tons, valued at £1,240, as against 5 tons exported in 1905, valued at £840.

The quantity of green vegetables, other than potatoes and onions exported during 1906 was practically the same as during the previous year, viz.:—

1906—48,605 packages, valued at £6,079.
1905—48,155 packages, valued at £6,046.

In 1904 the export was 29,038 packages, valued at £3,637.

(D.) Public Garden.

The Public Garden, supported chiefly as an agricultural experimental station, is under the control and management of the Board of Agriculture.

During the year under review the Board of Agriculture published, for general information, a report furnished by the Imperial Institute on a sample of Sea Island cotton grown in Bermuda. The report in question was on the whole a satisfactory one, but the lack of sufficient area for planting and the high cost of labour prohibit the growing of cotton in this Colony.

At the request of the Board of Agriculture the Legislature during the year placed a sum of £700 at their disposal to enable them to continue the experiments in the cultivation of Sumatra wrapper tobacco on a larger scale than in the previous year. Owing to an unusually long drought the experiment had to be abandoned after more than half of the amount voted had been expended.

There is little doubt that wrapper tobacco can be grown in Bermuda and cured successfully, but unless the process of curing be undertaken by a syndicate with sufficient capital, and the tobacco leaf be purchased by the syndicate from the growers, there is small chance of establishing an industry in this product.

During the year a course of lessons in agriculture and school gardening was given by the Superintendent of the Public Garden to school teachers, with a view to enable them to teach nature study and elementary agriculture in the elementary schools of the Colony.

Towards the end of the year the Board forwarded to the Executive detailed recommendations from the Superintendent of the Public Garden for destroying the "peach fly," and the Legislature was invited to vote a sum of £500 for the purpose, and to pass legislation to confer statutory powers on the Board to enable them to deal with the matter. Before the close of the year the Legislature had decided to accede to the request of the Board.

Owing to representations made by the Superintendent of the Public Garden, and to the recommendations of Sir Daniel

Morris, Imperial Commissioner for Agriculture in the West Indies, some attention was given by the Board during the year to the question of establishing an export trade in bananas to New York. The banana grown ordinarily in these Islands is the species known as the Canary banana, and trial shipments which have been made have indicated that possibly a lucrative export trade to the United States could be established. The season, however, was not favourable owing to the long drought, and experimental shipments on organized lines had to be abandoned on that account.

The work of the Public Garden under Mr. T. J. Harris, the Superintendent, was directed during the year, as usual, chiefly towards the collection and distribution of information regarding diseases and their remedies and cultural errors in the ordinary agricultural crops. Experiments in the cultivation of new products were also continued such as tobacco, vanilla, and in the packing and export of vegetables and fruit to New York.

Another attempt was made during the year to grow good onion seed, but it was not attended with any success, the plants being destroyed by thrip before the seeds were mature.

(E.) Shipping.

The total tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1906, in comparison with 1905, is shewn on the following table:—

Vessels Entered and Cleared.

	1906.			1905.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	564,837	4,906	569,743	590,874	2,911	593,785
American... ...	568	7,317	7,885	5,148	10,816	15,964
Austrian	9,710	—	9,710	8,074	—	8,074
French	7,626	—	7,626	—	—	—
German	3,724	—	3,724	20,152	—	20,152
Italian	10,970	—	10,970	—	—	—
Norwegian ...	4,218	3,638	7,856	20,146	1,476	21,622
Swedish	2,648	—	2,648	2,912	—	2,912
Spanish	3,884	—	3,884	—	—	—
Danish	729	—	729	8,952	—	8,952
Russian	2,308	698	3,006	—	—	—
Dutch	94	—	94	—	—	—
Total ...	611,316	16,559	627,875	656,258	15,203	671,461

Shipping Entered and Cleared for last Five Years.

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons.
1902	574,487	133,930
1903	481,085	69,544
1904	541,455	75,799
1905	593,785	87,676
1906	569,743	58,132

III.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislature was convened on the 6th day of June, 1906, and at the end of the year was still in session.

Thirty-one Acts were passed during the year, of which the following may be taken as the most important:—

The Produce Inspection Act, 1906 (No. 8).

This measure amends the Act of 1890 with a view to securing a more efficient inspection of onions and potatoes intended for shipment abroad.

The Cruelty to Animals Act, 1906 (No. 12).

The existing law on this subject (No. 2 of 1873) was considered to be inadequate to meet certain cases of cruelty to animals, and the Act under reference introduces many changes which are an improvement.

The Immigration Act, 1906 (No. 18).

The principal object of this Act is to provide a more comprehensive definition of the term "passenger" than that contained in the Act of 1902 (No. 58).

The Public Health Act, 1906 (No. 20).

This measure authorizes the General Board of Health to provide temporary hospitals for the isolation of sick persons during the prevalence in the Colony of any infectious or contagious disease. Hitherto the law only authorized the Local Boards of Health to establish such hospitals.

The Offences against Property Act, 1906 (No. 23).

The frequency of acts of praedial larceny in the Colony led to the passing of this measure which gives members of the police force the right to stop and interrogate persons conveying fruit and agricultural produce along the public highways; and any person found in possession of such articles, or offering them for sale, is liable to punishment unless he can satisfy a Justice that he came honestly by them. It is doubtful whether the measure will be productive of much good, as the

fact that a constable, before he can act, must have reasonable grounds for believing that an offence has been committed will militate against the enforcing of the law.

The Contingent Expenses Act, 1906 (No. 28).

The Customs Tariff Act, 1906 (No. 29).

The Treasury Payments Act, 1906 (No. 30).

The Appropriation Act, 1906 (No. 31).

The above measures were designed and passed to bring into operation adopted changes in the mode of passing Estimates and voting supplies.

Hitherto all expenditure was voted by means of special Acts and Resolutions, the latter being termed Resolves.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—27 aided primary schools, with 1,791 scholars (916 boys and 875 girls); school fees, £276; Government contributions, £1,562.

The schools referred to are private schools aided by grants from the Colonial Treasury. Nine of them are attended by white children, and conducted by white teachers; eighteen of them are attended by coloured children, under coloured teachers. None of them are free schools, the fee charged in most cases being 3*d*. per week. The Legislature provides an annual sum of £2,000 to aid in the working of the schools. This grant is administered by a Board of Education, presided over and appointed by the Governor. The aided schools are inspected regularly by an Inspector of Schools.

In addition to three military schools and two naval schools, there are twenty other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys; the Berkeley Institute, for coloured boys and girls; the Whitney Institute, for white boys and girls; the Convent School and the High School, for white girls.

Twenty-nine candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last for the Bermuda Centre—two seniors, fourteen juniors, and thirteen preliminary, students. Of these candidates seventeen passed—one senior, eight juniors, and eight preliminary. Two of the candidates obtained honours.

The Legislature, on the application of the Board of Agriculture, again provided a sum of £100, in addition to the usual educational grant, to enable the Board to arrange for the delivery of special lectures to school teachers.

There are now three Bermuda Rhodes Scholars in residence at Oxford.

The Bermuda Scholarship Act, 1905, provides one scholarship annually, of the value of £150, and tenable for two years, to enable youths educated in Bermuda to proceed abroad at the age of 17 or over to prepare themselves for nomination to a Rhodes Scholarship. The scholarship for 1906 was awarded to Mr. T. T. Waddington, who entered Dulwich College, England.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospital.

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government. There is a cottage hospital near the City of Hamilton which is supported by voluntary contributions.

In my last report I alluded to the consideration by the Legislature of proposals for the establishment of a General Hospital. No final decision in the matter had been taken at the close of the year.

Hospitals are maintained in connection with the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments.

(B.) Lunatic Asylum.

An asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in the Colony in 1846.

The Medical Officer of Health is the medical superintendent of the institution and there is a competent staff of attendants. Eleven patients (6 male and 5 female) were admitted into the asylum in 1906. Three patients were discharged. The daily average number of patients was 54 (32 males and 22 females).

During the year under review extensive additions and alterations to the buildings were made. A semi-detached wing of eleven rooms has been built to accommodate the better class of male patients. Six new rooms and a verandah were also built on the female side of the asylum. Alterations and additions have also been made in the administrative part of the establishment, the most important of which are a new kitchen, scullery, and storeroom. At the date of writing this report a dining room on each side for patients, and an office and recreation room are also nearing completion.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1906, was 1,657, having an aggregate sum of £37,586 to their credit, as compared with 1861 depositors in 1905, having £42,243 to their credit. The amount of deposits during the year was £11,483, as against £16,508 in 1905.

The amount of invested funds of the bank on the 31st December, 1906, was £44,534 at par, equal to £38,633 at market value of consols on 31st December, 1906. The cash in the hands of the Receiver General and the managers on 31st December, 1906, was £716.

By Act No. 41 of 1902, the rate of interest allowed on deposits from 1st January, 1903, was reduced from 2½ to 2 per cent.

The decrease is the transactions of the Savings Bank during 1906 is due to agricultural depression and also to the return of a large number of West Indians to their homes, following the closing down of the Dockyard Extension Works.

(F.) Friendly Societies.

The number of Friendly Societies on the register on 31st December, 1906, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The regular police force consists of 1 inspector, 3 chief constables, and 22 regular police constables. There are in addition 21 salaried rural police constables appointed by the Governor.

Under the provisions of the Police Act, 1901, the Governor is empowered to employ in any temporary emergency or for any special occasion extra constables not exceeding 20 in number, and may authorize the employment of an unlimited number of special constables on the application of the Inspector of Police or other persons. Special constables are not remunerated from the public treasury.

The cost of the police establishment in 1906 was:—

	£	s.	d.
Salaries (inclusive of the salaries of the three police magistrates) ...	3,236	5	10
Other charges	193	6	6
Total ...	£3,429	12	4

The cost of the establishment in the previous year was £3,536 7*s.* 9*d.*

(B.) Prisons.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 131 (126 males and 5 females), as against 110 (108 males and 2 females) in 1905. Of these, 37 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 94 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1906 was £2,016 14*s.* 10*d.*, as compared with £1,609 in 1905.

(C.) Criminal Stastistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 481—a decrease, compared with 1905, of 33, and with 1904 of 171.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 406, of whom 294 were summarily convicted, 42 discharged for want of evidence, 49 acquitted, and 21 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 294 persons summarily convicted, 148 were fined, 13 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 45 peremptorily imprisoned, 12 bound over to keep the peace, and 69 dismissed without penalty.

Twenty-six cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, as compared with 25 in the previous year, and the convictions numbered 19; of these, 11 were for offences against the person, 3 for offences against property, and 5 for miscellaneous offences.

The above returns shew a general decrease in crime as compared with those of the previous year.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

At the census taken on the 31st March, 1901, the resident civilian population was returned at 17,535 persons, the white population numbering 6,383 (3,149 males and 3,234 females), the coloured, 11,152 (5,457 males and 5,695 females).

The Registrar-General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1906 consisted of 19,588 persons, consisting of 6,877 white (3,433 males and 3,444 females), and 12,711 coloured (6,082 males and 6,629 females), a decrease, as compared with 1905, of 621 persons.

This decrease is due to the excess of emigration over immigration during the year, caused by the return of large number of labourers to the West Indies on the completion of the dockyard extension works.

The estimated total population, including the naval and military establishments, was 22,329 persons.

The birth-rate was 37·4 and the death-rate 23·3 per 1,000.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 15·1 to 100 births.

(B.) Public Health.

The state of the public health during the year was exceptionally good.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1906 was 2,741, as compared with 4,561 in 1905, and the deaths were 8; the rate of mortality thus being about 2·91 per 1,000.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops has been very good. The average strength of the garrison was 1,331. Number of admissions to hospital, 517. Ratio of admission per 1,000 of strength, 388·43. Number of deaths, 5. Average number of daily sick, 32·11. Average strength of officers, 58; cases of sickness, 18; deaths, none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 160. There were three deaths.

The average daily mean strength of the naval forces in the Colony during the year 1906, corrected for the time each ship remained in port, was 1,410. This included men employed in the dockyard and the naval hospital.

(D.) Meteorological Observations.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, shew as follows: —

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·127 inches; mean temperature of the air, 70·7 degrees; mean relative humidity, 83·6 per cent.; mean hourly velocity of the wind, 10·4 miles; total amount of rainfall during the year, 61·18 inches; difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 1·35 inches less; number of days during the year on which rain fell, 191.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Postal Service.

There are 19 post offices in the Colony, and three money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office Department in 1906 was £5,582, compared with a revenue of £5,935 in 1905. The expenditure was £5,749, compared with £5,595 in 1905.

The deficit in 1906 was thus £167, as compared with a surplus of £340 in 1905.

The sum of £4,622 was paid out in the Colony on money orders and postal orders, as compared with £4,089 in 1905.

The amount paid into the Post Office on account of money orders and postal orders during the year was £20,282, as compared with £22,825 in 1905. The remittances by means of

money orders to the United Kingdom amounted to £9,442, those to the West Indies £1,587, to the United States £1,194, and to Canada £835. The British postal orders issued in the Colony amounted to £7,222 as compared with £7,257 in 1905.

It is estimated that the number of letters dealt with during the year was 1,081,161; newspapers, book-packets, and circulars, 431,870; post-cards, 279,162; and parcels, 8,443.

The falling off in the revenue of the Post Office is attributed to a decrease in the naval and military establishments, a temporary falling off in the number of tourists, and depression in business due to these and other causes.

The increase in expenditure was due to an increase in the salaries of a number of the officers of the department under the provisions of The Public Officers' Salaries Act which went into operation on the 1st of May, 1905; to an increase under a scheme of re-adjustment of the salaries of sub-postmasters and rural postmen, which took effect on the 1st of October, 1905, and an increase in the cost of conveyance of a portion of the inland mails under a new contract.

The following is an extract from the Colonial Postmaster's annual report:—"The expenditure in 1906 was greater than that of any previous year, and for the first time since 1892 a deficit is shewn. The deficit is, however, not a large one, and as no increase of expenditure is contemplated at present, there is every expectation that there will be sufficient growth in the service in the near future to increase the revenue beyond the amount of the expenditure, and so replace the finances of the department in the satisfactory position they have held for so many years. The uninterrupted period of surplus revenue has been broken by the year 1906, and in taking leave for a short time of this successful period, it may be well to state that the surplus revenue paid into the Treasury during the period referred to amounted to the substantial sum of £7,872."

Telegraphs and Telephones.

There is no inland telegraph.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which companies are under subsidies from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world through Halifax on the one hand and Turks Island and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Island and Jamaica in 1898. The company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George's for the use of the public.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

Governor's salary	£2,199
Military Establishments	£121,955

Compared with 1905, the latter returns shew a decrease of £83,842.

The expenditure on the Naval Establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular military forces at Bermuda in 1906 was 1,331, and the average strength of the naval forces, 1,410.

Return of Militia.—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 238 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers.—Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps, 319 officers and men.

The expenditure during the year on account of the Militia was £2,071; and that on account of the Volunteers £1,099. This expenditure was borne entirely by the Imperial Government.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Civil Establishment.

His Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir R. M. Stewart, K.C.B., proceeded to England on leave of absence on the 22nd August, 1906, and the administration of the Government was assumed by Lieutenant-Colonel S. Frewen, D.A.A. and Q.M.G., Senior Combatant Military Officer in command of the troops.

Immigration.

Immigration during 1906 was checked by the reduction in the naval and military establishments and by the completion of the Dockyard Extension Works. In fact there was a large exodus of West Indians from the Colony.

The excess of emigration over immigration for the year 1906 is estimated to have been 860. The excess of males was 644 and of females 216. Among the civilian white population it is estimated that there was an increase of emigration over immigration of 243 (142 males and 101 females). Among the coloured population it is estimated that there was an increase of emigration over immigration of 617 (502 males and 115 females).

General Remarks.

The Colony may be said to have passed through a financial crisis during the year 1906.

The commercial community had not yet recovered from the changes consequent on the sudden and unexpected reduction of the Imperial Establishments. Added to this came the completion of the Dockyard Extension Works, and the return to the West Indies and elsewhere of large numbers of wage earners who had caused an increase in the circulation of money.

The tourist season was an unusually short one and the number of tourists not up to the average.

Owing to conditions beyond the control of farmers and shippers of produce, agricultural undertakings, on the whole, during the year gave small returns and in some cases direct losses were suffered.

The spending powers of the whole resident community, during the year, were at a low ebb. The revenue is derived almost entirely from Customs receipts, and consequently the conditions named above had their effect on the public treasury, which was practically depleted by the 31st December, 1906.

Towards the close of the year the House of Assembly were called upon to meet the anticipated deficit in the revenue for the year 1907. They decided to increase the *ad valorem* duties from 5 per cent. to 10 per cent., and also to increase certain specific duties. These increased duties came into force on the 1st of January, 1907.

The tourist season just concluded is acknowledged to have been one of the most successful on record. A conservative estimate of the money spent locally by the winter tourists this year is £100,000. The crop season now drawing to a close, owing to propitious weather conditions and a combination between growers and shippers of produce, has been an unusually good one for all concerned, and the value of produce shipped is estimated to be at least £130,000. The expenditure on Imperial Establishments is likely to be £160,000. The amount of money which will be put into circulation in the Colony from the sources named above during the year is little short of £400,000.

Owing to the completion of certain Colonial Public Works, and the discontinuance of the subsidy to the Quebec Steamship Company, there will be a marked decrease in expenditure in 1907, and in consequence of the additional taxation it is estimated that there should be a cash balance of £8,000 in the Public Treasury at the end of the year. It remains to be seen whether the estimated revenue will be realized.

Indications are in favour of the conclusion that the financial crisis is passed and that the outlook is again a favourable one.

Considerable attention is being given towards the development of the tourist business, the importance of which I have referred to directly in previous reports.

I have, &c.,

EYRE HUTSON,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
Sir Robert MacGregor Stewart, K.C.B.,
Lieutenant-General, Governor and
Commander-in-Chief, Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
497	Barbadcs	1905–1906
498	Malta	1905
499	British Central Africa Protectorate	1905-1906
500	Colonial Survey Committee	,,
501	Grenada	1905
502	Straits Settlements	,,
503	Gibraltar	,,
504	Trinidad and Tobago	1905–1906
505	St. Lucia...	1905
506	Mauritius	,,
507	Southern Nigeria (Lagos)	,,
508	Somaliland	1905–1906
509	Fiji	1905
510	St. Vincent	1905–1906
511	Sierra Leone	1905
512	Southern Nigeria	,,
513	Basutoland	1905–1906
514	British Guiana	,,
515	British Honduras	1905
516	Northern Nigeria	1905–1906
517	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
518	Leeward Islands	,,
519	East Africa Protectorate	,,
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	,,
522	Falkland Islands	,,
523	Ashanti	,,
524	Jamaica	1905–1906
525	Uganda Protectorate	,,
526	St. Helena	1906
527	Ceylon	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis ...	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture (1884).
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate ...	Report on Forests of Kenia.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 568.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1907.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 528.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
August, 1908.

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No. 568.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1906, *see* No. 528.)

THE GOVERNOR to the SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Bermuda,
19th May, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith the annual Report on the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1907, which has been prepared by Mr. Hutson, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

JOSCELINE WODEHOUSE,
Lieutenant-General, Governor and
Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Hon.
The Secretary of State
for the Colonies.

1125 Wt 24282 8/08 D & S 5 32958 A 2

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Bermuda,
20th April, 1908.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit to Your Excellency the following Report on the Blue Book for the year 1907.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

The revenue for the year amounted to £67,538, being £14,325 more than the revenue for 1906, which was £53,213.

The following tables compare the revenue and expenditure for 1907 with that for 1906:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1906	37,269	15,944	53,213
1907	53,798	13,740	67,538
Decrease...	—	2,204	—
Increase	16,529	—	14,325

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1907	23,529	35,643	59,172
1906	23,496	45,568	69,064
Increase	33	—	—
Decrease...	—	9,925	9,892

The return of revenue for the year under review shows that there was an increase in the gross receipts, as compared with those in 1906, amounting to £14,325. The increase in "Customs Duties" amounted to £16,529. The increase in revenue was due to an increase made in the ad valorem customs duty from 5 per cent. and 6¼ per cent. to 10 per cent., and also to an increase in some of the specific duties. Included in the total revenue, viz., £67,538, is a sum of £4,508, being a loan

repaid to the Treasury by the Savings Bank. If this sum be deducted, the revenue received from ordinary sources during the year was £63,030.

The revenue, which amounted to £67,538 14*s.* 10*d.*, was made up as follows:—

	Amount. £	*s.*	*d.*
Ad valorem duty	34,436	3	3
Specific duty	19,362	5	3
Other receipts	13,740	6	4
Total ...	£67,538	14	10

Heads of Increase.

	Amount. £	*s.*	*d.*
Ad valorem duty	16,002	14	10
Bananas	10	17	3
Cigars and cigarettes	822	18	1
Eggs	408	16	6
Lighthouse tolls	353	4	0
Postal revenue	682	14	11
Tobacco	761	3	4
Wines	67	10	10

Heads of Decrease.

	Amount. £	*s.*	*d.*
Arrowroot	122	19	8
Bicycles	8	0	0
Fines of Court	27	0	0
Loans to Savings Bank—repayment of	2,494	10	10
Miscellaneous receipts... ...	16	11	1
Malt liquor	523	15	5
Rum	470	11	3
Other spirits	1,035	9	11
Oxen and cows	111	16	0
Reimbursements to Government	627	1	11

Expenditure.

The principal increases appear in the following items:—

	Amount. £	*s.*	*d.*
Colonial Secretary	1,094	6	3
Educational	212	6	2
Agriculture	933	13	0
Gaols	322	9	0

Expenditure—cont.

	Amount. £	s.	d.
Legislative	225	17	6
Miscellaneous payments ...	7,012	14	7
Post Office	801	1	0
Superannuation	688	18	8
Pilotage	16	10	4
Public health	465	17	10
Library and museum	376	18	7
Lunatic asylum	279	1	5
Registration of births, &c. ...	175	8	6
Receiver-General	1,713	9	0
Public Debt	402	2	6
Volunteers	200	0	0

Principal Heads of Decrease.

	Amount. £	s.	d.
Colonial Surveyor	1,773	11	10
Immigration	46	3	10
Ecclesiastical	130	4	4
Savings Bank (advances to) ...	144	12	1

(B.) Revenue and Expenditure for last Five Years.

Year.	Revenue. £.	Expenditure. £.
1903 ...	57,169 ...	55,503
1904 ...	63,457 ...	61,133
1905 ...	53,321 ...	65,307
1906 ...	53,213 ...	69,064
1907 ...	67,538 ...	59,172

The cash balance in hand on the 31st December, 1907, was £8,712, as against £293 at the end of 1906, and £16,144 at the end of 1905. As shown in the foregoing table, the expenditure for the year 1907 was £9,872 less than in 1906.

(C.) Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony at the end of 1906 were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Cash in the Treasury	8,712	0	0
Advances made to Savings Bank on account of interest, cost of management, &c.	1,799	0	8
Total	£10,511	0	8

There were no liabilities on 31st December, 1907, beyond the Public Debt, which is separately dealt with.

(D.) Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the end of 1907 amounted to £46,100, made us as follows:—

Local Inscribed Stock	£45,500
New Government House Debentures... ...	600

On £40,000 of the local inscribed stock the rate of interest is 4½ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first-mentioned sum was raised in 1893-4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The twelfth instalment of £1,000, payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the sinking fund created in connection with the loan, was remitted to London last year.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting St. George's with the main island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by the hurricane in September, 1899. Instalments, amounting to £2,250, towards the sinking fund created in connection with this loan, have been remitted to London for investment. The stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

The average rate of interest on the Government House debentures is 4⅜ per cent. The original amount of the debt was £11,600. According to the tenor and effect of the debentures now outstanding, they are redeemable as follows:—1908, £500; 1909, £100.

All the loans referred to were raised locally.

(E.) Currency.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government bank. The paper money in circulation consists of a limited number of Bank of England notes and United States "green backs." The number of these latter notes in circulation has increased considerably, and they are accepted generally (although not at the banks) at a premium, owing to the fact that they can be used for remittance purposes through letter post. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two local banks, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, Limited, both incorporated by local Acts.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments in the Colony, issues bills of exchange on His Majesty's

Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

The Colonial Government keeps a current account with the Bank of Bermuda and with the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son to the extent of a maximum deposit of £4,000 at each bank, against which deposits the banks give security to the full maximum amount.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £1,000) in 1907 was £410,596.

Compared with 1906, this shows an increase of £12,420. The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1903 to 1907, inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1903 ...	539,688	172,347	65,637	9,457	289,239	3,008
1904 ...	590,000	190,995	86,150	12,705	295,054	5,096
1905 ...	543,222	179,050	81,146	12,409	264,797	5,820
1906 ...	398,176	111,993	55,451	9,757	218,202	2,773
1907 ...	410,596	111,831	72,388	6,317	215,794	4,266

In the above figures the value of the Government stores—civil, military, and naval—is not included.

The value of the principal imports from the United Kingdom in 1907, compared with 1906, was:—

Article.	Value. 1907.	1906.
	£	£
Clothing	... 12,488	... 17,180
Cotton goods... ...	... 14,441	... 17,886
Fancy goods... ...	... 2,611	... 1,634
Oilmen's stores ...	... 6,937	... 10,778
Silk goods	... 5,233	... 5,046
Rice	... 1,697	... 1,620
Sugar	... 1,538	... 1,623
Coals	... —	... 260
Woollen goods ...	... 8,412	... 6,893
Machinery	... 565	... 712
Metal manufactures	... 650	... 452
Malt liquor	... 14,410	... 14,201
Whisky	... 1,590	... 2,051
Wine	... 2,559	... 2,048

Article.	Value. 1907. £	1906. £
Hardware	2,028	1,547
Building material	979	1,655
Drugs	869	1,263
Earthenware	1,075	967
Glassware	921	816
Stationery	1,259	1,123
Jewellery	3,284	2,118
Leather, manufactured ...	1,668	1,491
Cigars and Cigarettes ...	2,569	2,280

The total value of imports from the United Kingdom for the year 1907 was £121,831, as against £116,993 in 1906, and £179,050 in 1905.

The principal imports from Canada were:—

Article.	Value. 1907. £	1906. £
Box material...	4,660	3,302
Butter	11,471	9,824
Fish (preserved)	4,643	5,017
Flour...	10,749	5,671
Horses	740	230
Bran	2,755	2,286
Cheese	2,934	2,390
Hay	3,508	2,393
Oats	8,646	5,963
Potatoes	3,718	2,398

The total value of imports from Canada for the year 1907 was £72,388, being £16,937 more than in 1906. There was an increase in the value of imports under almost every heading, especially in butter, flour, and box material used for crates for onions and market garden produce.

The following table shows the value of imports from Canada (declared) during the last ten years:—

Year.	Value. £
1898	30,611
1899	33,119
1900	—
1901	41,167
1902	52,131
1903	65,693
1904	86,150
1905	81,146
1906	55,451
1907	72,388

This table shows that with the exception of the years 1906 and 1907 there has been a steady increase in the value of

imports from Canada. It has been suggested to me that the great drop in the value of the imports in 1906 was to a certain extent due to the fact that the contractor supplying bread to the naval and military establishments for that year may have either imported American flour or imported Canadian flour through New York, and the flour so imported was shown as imports from the United States. I have not been able to verify this suggestion.

During the year beef in quarters to the value of £13,590 was imported from the United States, as against no importations whatever from Canada. Oxen and cows to the value of £14,225 were imported from the United States, as against £1,914 from Canada. Meat is expensive in Bermuda, and there would appear to be an opening for competition by Canada with importations from the United States.

Corn or maize to the value of £5,470 was imported from the United States, as against corn to the value of £9 from Canada.

The principal imports from the United States were:—

Article.	Value. 1907. £	1906. £
Beef	13,590	5,725
Bran	3,323	3,381
Butter	4,480	7,170
Coals	8,048	6,606
Cotton goods	6,311	8,460
Fertilizers	10,925	4,243
Fancy goods	1,283	2,038
Flour	10,834	10,314
Canned fruit and meats	4,745	4,054
Groceries	5,259	6,694
Hardware	4,915	4,251
Leather, manufactured	11,080	10,786
Lumber	4,502	5,730
Kerosene oil	6,240	6,373
Oats	3,084	4,494
Provisions	16,376	19,639
Oxen and cows	14,225	22,908
Sheep	2,526	3,769
Sugar	5,820	4,423
Tobacco	1,756	675
Building material	2,870	3,204
Carriages	718	754
Hay	482	1,220
Cheese	1,242	1,873
Clothing	4,519	3,331
Corn	5,470	4,985
Drugs	2,885	4,027
Furniture	5,174	3,894
Metal, manufactured	1,900	3,016
Horses	1,290	1,142
Machinery	2,726	1,350

The total value of imports from the United States of America for the year was £215,794, as against £218,202, in 1906, and £264,797 in 1905.

During the year 37,080 dozen eggs, at a declared value of £2,075, fruit valued at £3,941, and fresh vegetables valued at £1,375 were imported into the Colony.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £9,977) in 1907 was £130,621.

Compared with 1906, this shows an increase of £9,326, and an increase by £9,720 on the average of the preceding five years.

Included in the exports was 5,646 tons of old iron, of a declared value of £5,052. Of this, 3,720 tons was exported to Germany, valued at £3,000. This latter was the part proceeds of the old Admiralty floating dock, which has been sold to a firm in Hamburg.

The following is a comparative table of the value of exports (exclusive of specie) for the five years from 1903 to 1907, inclusive:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1903 ...	3,806	5,032	4,256	112,249	—	125,343
1904 ...	3,785	4,606	3,710	118,184	—	130,305
1905 ...	4,727	2,973	5,031	103,508	189	116,428
1906 ...	31,927	1,339	3,340	83,717	972	121,295
1907 ...	1,831	542	6,697	128,528	3,000	140,598

The principal exports to the United Kingdom in 1907, compared with 1906, were:—

Article.	Value. 1907.	1906.
	£	£
Arrowroot	470	1,194
Bulbs	—	613
Hides	45	575
Tallow	132	304

The principal exports to the United States were:—

Article.	Value. 1907.	1906.
	£	£
Bulbs	9,593	8,199
Hides	952	1,046
Onions	62,364	44,066
Potatoes	28,236	15,101
Miscellaneous vegetables	11,306	6,074

The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £115,255, as against £79,601 for 1906.

(B.) Manufactures and Fisheries.

Manufactures.

There are two ice factories, which manufacture most of the ice consumed locally.

There is one arrowroot factory, which is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this commodity.

Bermuda arrowroot apparently continues to hold its premier place in home and foreign markets. The price (retail) per lb. in London is about 2*s.* 6*d.*, as compared with 1*s.* 9*d.* per lb. for St. Vincent and other arrowroot. The cultivation and manufacture of this product could be increased, and would add materially to the agricultural prosperity of these Islands.

A factory for the manufacture of cigars from imported tobacco was established in Hamilton in 1906, and now supplies the bulk of cigars locally consumed. This industry has caused a decline in the quantities of cigars imported, and a consequent loss of revenue. The value of cigars imported for 1907, as compared with 1905, was for 1905 £4,508, and for 1907 £1,346.

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony.

(C.) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets still continues to be the chief agricultural industry of these Islands. The principal market is New York. The exportation of kitchen garden produce, such as lettuce, beans, peas, parsley, celery, carrots, beets, &c., to New York in the early part of the year is increasing gradually.

The potato crop for 1907 was a large one, and there was a good demand on the New York markets at remunerative prices.

The quantities exported were as follows:—32,860 barrels and 37 crates, of a declared value of £28,864. The quantity exported in 1906 was 18,089 barrels and 237 crates, of a declared value of £15,281.

The onion crop was a good one but not so large as that produced in 1905, although the declared value in 1907 was higher.

The quantity and declared value of onions exported in 1907 was as follows:—320,699 crates and 384 barrels, of a declared value of £63,189. The export of this product in 1906 was 239,064 crates and 242 barrels, of a declared value of

£44,776, and in 1905, 399,916 crates and 137 barrels, of a declared value of £62,465.

The lily bulb crop was again a small one, although there was a distinct advance from the figures for the preceding year, both as regards the number exported and declared value. The quantity and declared value of the export of this product was as follows:—6,399 packages, of a declared value of £9,612, as against 5,093 packages, valued at £8,860, in 1906, and 8,945 packages, valued at £7,264, in 1905.

The quantity and declared value of arrowroot exported in 1907 was 2 tons 18 cwt., valued at £517, as compared with 9 tons, valued at £1,240, in 1906, and 5 tons, valued at £840, in 1905.

The quantity and value of green vegetables, other than potatoes and onions, exported during 1907, as compared with 1906, is as follows:—

1906—48,605 packages, valued at £6,079.
1907—87,911 packages, valued at £11,057.

In 1904 and 1905 the export was, respectively, 29,038 packages, valued at £3,637, and 48,155 packages, valued at £6,046. The steady increase in this industry is very gratifying.

(D.) Public Garden.

I am indebted to the Superintendent of the Public Garden for the following notes on the work of his department for the past year:—

"The Botanical Department is assuming more and more a position of importance in the economic development of Bermuda, and is steadily endeavouring to eliminate the weak spots of the present industries, laying the foundations of new ones, and bringing about the utilization of the local forces with a view to improving the Colony as a residential country.

"The cultivation of fruit, neglected for forty years on account of the fruit fly (*Ceratitis capitata*), bids fair to become an important feature. The Fruit Fly Destruction Act came into force on the 1st of March, 1907, and has already passed the experimental stage. There is every indication that the work was planned, and is proceeding on sound lines, and if brought to a successful issue the value of this service to the Colony should be great. The peach crop alone, ripening in May and June, within two days of New York, should prove to be a good asset of the Colony. There are 54 kinds of fruit trees growing in Bermuda, not including bananas and strawberries.

"The United States Department of Agriculture very kindly furnished three young budded plants of loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*) of the following varieties:—'Limoncella,' from Italy; 'St. Michel Round,' from Algeria; and a variety from Sicily, No. 12,832. Buds of a fine variety, selected from a

batch of seedlings, put on in April, 1907, at the Public Garden, grew into fine trees in one season.

"The work under the Fruit Fly Destruction Act is being followed with much interest by Dr. Howard, of the United States Department of Agriculture, and we are indebted to him for support and advice, and for the identification of a larger fruit fly, bred out of some Guavas from Dominica, British West Indies, which were seized by the Customs authorities on importation contrary to the provisions of the Act. These flies proved to be '*Anastrephas acidusa*.'

"At the Public Garden, nurseries of young fruit trees have been prepared for distribution, and improved varieties imported for propagation and information, re-planting, and cultivation, will be published in due course, and examples maintained.

"Improvements in field cultivation, soil management, dealing with fungus diseases, and selection of an early ripening type of onions for seed cultivation in Teneriffe have received attention. Seeds of the specially selected early type of onion are now being grown by Mr. Peter S. Reid in Teneriffe.

"The lily bulb industry is gradually recovering itself under the direction of the Department, the weakest point now being the unrestricted export of bulbs not true to type, and falsely marked. A Pure Seed Law in the United States, parallel to the Pure Food Law, would bring the mixed bulb industry in Bermuda to an abrupt conclusion. At present the sale of selected stock true to type is being hampered, prices kept down, and confidence in the trade jeopardized. An inspection before exportation is recommended. At the Public Garden the various types have been grown in separate beds, and photographs have been sent to the Florists' Exchange in America, and bulbs sent to the Royal Gardens, Kew, to be grown on and identified. Experiments are being conducted in the raising of seedlings of Lilium Harrisii and the selection of improved types from hybrid seedlings.

"Further efforts towards the establishment of an export trade in Canary bananas have taken the form of supervising the planting and care of plots of land under banana cultivation in different parts of the Colony, advising the planters from time to time how to proceed.

"The strawberry industry is expanding rapidly; close upon 200,000 plants have been imported, and shipments from those planted last year are nearly ready to go forward. A plot containing 50 plants of each of 110 varieties has been planted at the Public Garden.

"The green vegetable industry has been assisted by tests of varieties and the distribution of plants to growers and to those who desire to make trials before engaging in it on a larger scale.

"The experiment in the cultivation and curing of wrapper tobacco was continued and completed, and the crop baled and stored for the final stage, *i.e.*, maturing. It is considered

inadvisable to send out samples immediately after the fermentation, for in the trade tobacco has to mature in the bale for at least a year before being used.

"One and a quarter acres were planted, but owing to an unexpected yield and want of barn space, only about a third was reaped; 1,000 lbs. weight of wrapper was finished and baled."

The Superintendent of the Public Garden has been endeavouring by close and friendly association with some of the leading farmers to furnish good examples of field cultivation in various parts of the Colony and to assist persons in the proper laying out of gardens by advice and by supplying plants.

The appropriation made by the Legislature for services of the Public Garden, and for services in connection therewith for the year 1907, was as follows:—

	Expenditure £	s.	d.
Personal Emoluments, £340 ...	326	8	0
General Grant, £1,000	978	7	5
Cultivation of tobacco, £373 6*s.* 11*d.*	373	6	11
Destruction of insect pests, £500 ...	499	14	2
Total expenditure ...	£2,177	16	6

The incidental cost of the Board of Agriculture, such as the payment of members, stationery, &c., and also the expenditure incurred on behalf of the inspection of produce and of imported bulbs, is not included in the above figures.

(E.) Shipping.

The total tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1907, in comparison with 1906, is shown on the following table:—

Vessels Entered and Cleared.

—	1907.			1906.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British	691,864	6,218	698,082	564,837	4,906	569,743
American	5,148	8,242	13,390	568	7,317	7,885
German	56,876	2,106	58,982	3,724	—	3,724
Norwegian ...	27,957	1,588	29,545	4,218	3,638	7,856
Austrian	9,068	—	9,068	9,710	—	9,710
Dutch	624	—	624	94	—	94
Italian	9,008	—	9,008	10,970	—	10,970
Spanish	2,420	—	2,420	3,884	—	3,884
Greek	7,528	—	7,528	—	—	—
Danish	729	—	729	729	—	729
Total ...	811,222	18,154	829,376	611,316	16,559	627,875

Shipping Entered and Cleared for last Five Years.

Year.	British.	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons
1903	481,085	69,544
1904	541,455	75,799
1905	593,785	87,676
1906	569,743	58,132
1907	698,082	131,294

III.—LEGISLATION.

The Legislature was convened on the 5th day of August, 1907, and at the end of the year was still in Session. The Session which opened on the 6th June, 1906, was not closed until the 29th April, 1907.

Forty-seven Acts were passed during the year, of which the following may be taken as the most important:—

The Schools Act, 1907 (No. 1).

This measure makes certain radical changes in the constitution of the Board of Education appointed to administer the grant to aided schools, and makes provision for a larger annual amount for the purpose of assisting primary education. It makes provision for the appointment of a Secretary to the Board, relieving the Inspector of a certain amount of clerical work, and thus affording him more time for inspecting schools. Each of the nine parishes of the Colony is constituted an educational district and the Board is given authority to appoint an educational officer for each district. Authority is also given to the Board to Appoint a Local School Committee in each parish who will be required to exercise a certain amount of superintendence over the educational system and work in their respective districts. These Local Committees are intended to supersede the local Parish Vestries, who, under former Acts, were entrusted with the local administration of the law. Under this Act the school age at which attendance at school is compulsory is "between seven and thirteen" instead of "between six and thirteen"—an unfortunate change. Another important change in this Act is the power given to the Board to order the closing of schools, whether aided or not, kept in buildings which are insanitary and which, for other reasons, are objectionable.

The annual grant for the purposes of the Act was increased from £2,000 to £2,500. The comparative smallness of the

grant will seriously hamper the Board in its efforts to improve the educational system of the Colony.

The Fruit Fly Destruction Act, 1907 (No. 6).

For many years the cultivation of fruit has practically been abandoned owing to the ravages of the fly (*ceratitis capitata*). This measure appropriates a sum of money to enable the Board of Agriculture to cause the destruction of fruit and the pruning of fruit trees so as to prevent their bearing for such period as the Board deems necessary for the extermination of the fly. The Act also prohibits the importation of fruit from the West Indies, with certain exceptions, and power is given to the Governor in Council to extend this prohibition to other places.

The Alien Act, 1907 (No. 12).

Previous to the coming into operation of this Act an alien was not permitted to acquire and hold real estate in this Colony except on lease for a period not exceeding twenty-one years.

Under the provisions of this Act, subject to the following conditions, aliens may acquire and hold real estate in Bermuda in the same manner as a natural-born British subject, and title may be derived through an alien:—

(1) The sanction of the Governor in Council is required before an alien can acquire land by deed.

(2) The aggregate quantity of land so acquired by aliens is not to exceed 2,000 acres in the whole Colony, nor 400 acres in any parish.

(3) An alien cannot acquire by deed more than 15,000 superficial feet of land in the city of Hamilton and town of St. George, or elsewhere to a greater extent than 10 acres except under special circumstances.

Full particulars of land acquired by aliens is required to be recorded in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

The measure also deals with the question of naturalization, and under its provisions a naturalized person is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a natural-born British subject, except the privilege of becoming a member of the Legislature.

Up to the date of this report only six aliens have taken advantage of the privilege of acquiring land, and the total quantity so held is about ten acres.

The Criminal Code Act, 1907 (No. 13).

This measure, one of considerable length, provides a Criminal Code, based to a large extent on that in force in the Colony of Queensland.

It provides a long-felt want and should prove of considerable use in simplifying the administration of Justice.

The Bermuda Volunteer Act, 1907 (No. 17).

Act No. 6 of 1905 authorized the enrolment of a Volunteer Reserve. The effort to form a reserve corps failed. This

measure (No. 17 of 1907) authorizes the Governor to organize a Volunteer Cadet Corps, the main object of which is to supply recruits for the Volunteer Rifle Corps when the Cadets are old enough to enrol in that Corps.

A sum of £300 a year is provided for the joint purposes of Act No. 6 of 1905 and of this Act.

The establishment of a Cadet Corps has proved very popular, and at the present time there are 3 officers and 180 boys in the Corps, which is under the control and management of the Officer Commanding the Volunteer Rifle Corps.

The Produce Inspection Act, 1907 (No. 22).

This measure continues and amends the Act of 1906. The principal changes in this Act are requiring onions to be graded as well as potatoes, and in making some alteration in the definition of the expression "unfit for shipment," a notable one being that all uncured onions are included in that expression. It was considered necessary to make this change in the law in order to enable the Bermuda onion to compete successfully with the Texan onion, which is invariably cured.

The Supreme Court Act, 1907 (No. 43).

This measure makes a useful addition to the Statute Book by putting the law of the Colony with respect to the assignment of debts and other choses in action on the same footing as the law of England. It also makes some desirable changes in the times for holding the two ordinary sessions of the Court during the year.

A large number of the Acts passed during the year are simple continuing measures. A practice of the House of Assembly of giving all Acts a more or less short duration adds materially to the bulk of legislation and of the annual Statute Books.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns:—Twenty-seven aided primary schools, with 1,816 scholars (967 boys and 849 girls); school fees, £801; Government contributions, £1,611.

The schools referred to are private schools aided by grants from the Colonial Treasury. Nine of them are attended by white children, and conducted by white teachers; eighteen of them are attended by coloured children, under coloured teachers. None of them are free schools, the fee charged in most cases being 3*d.* per week. The Legislature provided a sum of £3,255 to aid in the working of the schools and for

educational purposes generally during 1907. £2,600 of this grant is administered by a Board of Education appointed by the Governor. The aided schools are inspected regularly by an Inspector of Schools.

In addition to three military schools and two naval schools, there are about 20 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys; the Berkeley Institute, for coloured boys and girls; the Whitney Institute, for white boys and girls; the Convent School and the High School, for white girls.

Twenty candidates entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations in December last for the Bermuda Centre—one senior, nine juniors, and ten preliminary students. Of these candidates fifteen passed—eight juniors and seven preliminary. Three of the candidates obtained honours.

There are now three Bermuda Rhodes Scholars in residence at Oxford.

The Bermuda Scholarship Act, 1905, provides one scholarship annually, of the value of £150, and tenable for two years, to enable youths educated in Bermuda to proceed abroad at the age of 17 or over to prepare themselves for nomination to a Rhodes Scholarship.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospital.

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government. There is a cottage hospital near the city of Hamilton which is supported by voluntary contributions.

In my last report I alluded to the consideration by the Legislature of proposals for the establishment of a General Hospital. No final decision in the matter had been taken at the close of the year, although the question was still under consideration.

Hospitals are maintained in connection with the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments.

(B.) Lunatic Asylum.

An Asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in this Colony in 1846.

The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants. Ten patients (four male and six female) were admitted into

the Asylum in 1907. Four patients were discharged. The daily average number of patients was 58 (33 male and 25 female).

During the year the semi-detached wing of the institution referred to in my last report was finished and furnished for the reception and accommodation of a certain class of patients. The new kitchen, scullery, store-room, and dining rooms were completed and taken into use. The six new rooms added to the female side have contributed to the comfort of the female patients.

At the beginning of 1907 there were 55 patients in the Asylum, and by the end of the year the number had increased to 65.

There has been a steady increase in the number of patients in the Asylum during the last five years; and it appears likely that the accommodation in the institution must again be increased in the near future.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1907, was 1,634, having an aggregate sum of £35,723 to their credit, as compared with 1,657 depositors in 1906, having £37,586 to their credit. The amount of deposits during the year was £10,735, as against £11,483 in 1906.

The amount of invested funds of the Bank on the 31st December, 1907, was £40,322 4*s.* 9*d.* at par, equal to £33,769 17*s.* 6*d.* at market value of consols on 31st December, 1907.

The rate of interest allowed on deposits is 2 per cent.

(F.) Friendly Societies.

The number of Friendly Societies on the register on 31st December, 1907, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The regular police force consists of one inspector, three chief constables, and 22 regular police constables. There are in addition 21 salaried rural police constables appointed by the Governor.

Under the provisions of The Police Act, 1901, the Governor is empowered to employ in any temporary emergency or for any

special occasion extra constables not exceeding 20 in number, and may authorize the employment of an unlimited number of special constables on the application of the Inspector of Police or other persons. Special constables are not remunerated from the public treasury.

The cost of the police establishment in 1907 was:—

	£
Salaries (inclusive of the salaries of the three police magistrates) ...	3,281
Other charges	203
Total	£3,484

The cost of the establishment in the previous year was £3,429.

(B.) Prisons.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 142 (139 males and 3 females), as against 131 (126 males and 5 females), in 1906. Of these 47 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 95 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1907 was £2,339, as compared with £2,016 in 1906.

(C.) Criminal Statistics.

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 476—a decrease, compared with 1906, of 5, and with 1905, of 38.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 404, or whom 292 were summarily convicted, 33 discharged for want of evidence, 50 acquitted, and 29 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 292 persons summarily convicted, 205 were fined, 19 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 29 peremptorily imprisoned, 13 bound over to keep the peace, 12 were whipped, and 14 dismissed without penalty.

Thirty-seven cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, as compared with 26 in the previous year, and the convictions numbered 28; of these, 12 were for offences against the person, and 16 for offences against property.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

At the census taken on the 31st March, 1901, the resident civilian population was returned at 17,535 persons, the white population numbering 6,383 (3,149 males and 3,234 females), the coloured, 11,152 (5,457 males and 5,695 females).

The Registrar General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1907 consisted of 19,299 persons, consisting of 6,718 white (3,297 males and 3,421 females), and 12,571 coloured (5,970 males and 6,541 females), a decrease, as compared with 1906, of 289 persons.

This decrease is due mainly to the excess of emigration over immigration during the year.

The estimated total population, including the naval and military establishments, was 21,561 persons.

The birth-rate was 33·7, and the death-rate, 18·7 per 1,000, among the resident civilian population.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 18·4 to 100 births.

(B.) Public Health.

The state of the public health during the year was good.

The average strength of the Imperial forces in Bermuda in 1907 was 2,332, as compared with 2,741 in 1906, and the deaths were 6; the rate of mortality thus being 2·57 per 1,000.

The Senior Medical Officer in charge of the military forces in the command reports that the general health of the troops during 1907 was good. The average strength of the garrison was 1,202. Number of admissions to hospital, 645. Ratio of admission per 1,000 of strength, 536·60. Number of deaths, 5. Average number of daily sick, 35. Average strength of officers, 57; cases of sickness, 26; deaths, none.

The Principal Naval Medical Officer reports that the number of cases of disease and injury admitted into the Royal Naval Hospital was 195. There was one death.

The average daily mean strength of the naval forces in the Colony during the year 1907, corrected for the time each ship remained in port, was 1,130. This included men employed in the dockyard and the naval hospital.

(D.) Meteorological Observations.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, which is 151 feet above sea level, show as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 30·139 inches.
Mean temperature of the air, 69·9 degrees.

Mean relative humidity, 83·2 per cent.
Mean hourly velocity of the wind, 12·6 miles.
Total amount of rainfall, 43·34 inches.
Difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 17·38 inches less.
Number of days on which rain fell, 182.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Postal Service.

There are 19 post offices in the Colony, and four money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office Department in 1907 was £6,022, compared with a revenue of £5,582 in 1906. The expenditure was £5,556, compared with £5,749 in 1906.

The surplus of revenue over expenditure was thus £466, as compared with a deficit of £167 in 1906.

The sum of £4,077 was paid out in the Colony on money orders, as compared with £3,546 in 1906.

The amount paid into the post office on account of money orders during the year was £8,901, as compared with £13,060 in 1906. The remittances by means of money orders to the United Kingdom amounted to £6,000, those to the West Indies, £991, to the United States £1,242, and to Canada, £667. The British postal orders issued in the Colony amounted to £6,599, as compared with £7,222 in 1906. The value of orders received and paid was £1,207.

It is estimated that the number of letters dealt with during the year was 1,207,385; book packets and circulars, 397,679; post cards, 381,423; and parcels, 10,637. The declared value of the parcels was £17,268, and the amount of duty collected on parcels received was £1,293.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1903	6,515 ...	5,336
1904	6,307 ...	4,719
1905	5,935 ...	5,595
1906	5,582 ...	5,749
1907	6,022 ...	5,556

The following is an extract from the Colonial Postmaster's report for the year 1907:—

"A comparison of the figures given in this table shows that the revenue, which had been declining since 1904, advanced in 1907, beyond the amounts shown for the years 1905 and 1906 respectively, whilst there was no corresponding increase in the expenditure, but on the contrary a decrease, which put the expenditure below that of either of the two years immediately preceding it. At the time of writing this report there are indications of a continuance of the renewed growth during 1908."

On the 1st February, 1907, the new parcel post service under a convention between this Colony and the United States went into operation.

The Colonial Postmaster reports that judging from the number of parcels handled during the year, it is probable that this particular parcel post service will assume large proportions.

A new money order convention with the United States was concluded during the year and went into force on the 1st July, 1907. The principal changes made were the direct transmission to the offices of payment of advices of money orders issued in either country, instead of forwarding them with lists to offices of exchange, the settlement of accounts on the basis of paid orders instead of orders issued, and the abolition of the practice of allowing a commission to the country of payment.

New conventions on similar lines were also made with Canada and the Leeward Islands, which went into force on the 1st January, 1908.

A similar change, but in a modified form, was also made in the money order service with the United Kingdom.

Under the new Postal Union Convention concluded at Rome in May, 1906, certain changes in international mail service went into operation on the 1st October, 1907, notably the change in the weight for letters from ½ oz. to 1 oz.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

There is no inland telegraph.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which companies are under subsidies from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world through Halifax on the one hand and Turks Island and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Island and Jamaica in 1898. The Company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George's for the use of the public.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Imperial expenditure returns are as follows:—

	£
Governor's salary	2,199
Military establishments	115,865

Compared with 1906, the latter return shows a decrease of £6,090.

The expenditure on the naval establishments is not returned.

The average strength of the regular military forces at Bermuda in 1907 was 1,202, and the average strength of the naval forces, 1,130.

Return of Militia:—The Bermuda Militia Artillery, 238 officers and men.

Return of Volunteers:—Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps, 319 officers and men.

The expenditure during the year on account of the Militia was £2,008; and that on account of the Volunteers, £1,150. This expenditure was borne entirely by the Imperial Government.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Civil Establishment.

Lieutenant-General Sir R. M. Stewart, K.C.B., relinquished the administration of the Colony on the 26th June, 1907, and on the same date Lieutenant-General J. H. Wodehouse, C.B., C.M.G., assumed the Government.

Mr. Ormond T. Middleton, Solicitor General, was appointed a member of the Legislative Council on the 22nd April, 1907.

Mr. Henry Lockward, Assistant Justice of the Supreme Court, was appointed a member of the Legislative Council on the 19th September, 1907.

Mr. W. H. Skeen was appointed third clerk in the post office, Hamilton, on the 8th October, 1907, vice Mr. H. C. Mercer, resigned. On the same date Mr. R. H. Higinbotham was appointed clerk in the post office, St. George's.

Mr. F. L. Godet was appointed clerk to the Board of Education on the 1st November, 1907.

Immigration.

The excess of emigration over immigration for the year 1907 is estimated to have been 618. The excess of males was 418, and of females 200. Among the civilian white population it is estimated that there was an increase of emigration over immigration of 229 (178 males and 51 females). Among the coloured population it is estimated that there was an increase of emigration over immigration of 389 (240 males and 149 females).

General Remarks.

In my report for the year 1906 I alluded under this heading to causes which led me to believe that the year 1907 would be a prosperous one. My anticipations were fully realized. After meeting all claims on the Treasury the estimated balance of £8,000 on the 31st December, 1907, was exceeded by £712.

The combination formed between shippers and growers of produce during the year took concrete shape by the formation of "The Bermuda Shippers and Growers Association," which has now been incorporated. The efforts of this Association are aimed at regulating and controlling the distribution of the Colony's agricultural produce, and to market the produce to the best advantage for the benefit of all concerned. The Association claim that their efforts last year in the direction referred to met with more success than was expected, and that unusually good prices were maintained during the crop season.

The Association allege that the cultivators of onions in the Colony are now handicapped by the marketing in New York of the same commodity grown in Texas, Louisiana, and California. For many years past, the Bermuda onion has been the standard early onion in the New York market. It is claimed that at the present date, large quantities of onions are grown in the United States in the States mentioned above and are sold in the New York market as Bermuda onions.

The successful cultivation of this product, and also of potatoes, the staple crops of these Islands, is apparently seriously threatened in consequence. Should the cultivation of these products fail for the causes referred to, the agricultural prospects of the Colony will depend on a further development of truck gardening, and on the cultivation of fruit, if the experiments now being conducted for the extermination of the fruit-fly pest prove successful, in which case resort may be had to extensive fruit cultivation.

The question of improving and extending hotel accommodation in order to meet the growing demands of the winter tourist business received considerable attention during the year. During the early part of 1907, a commodious and well equipped hotel was opened in the town of St. George, which was built and furnished almost entirely by local St. George private capital. This hotel has, so far, not solved the difficulty

of lack of proper accommodation for tourists, owing to the fact that American visitors apparently prefer to congregate in or near Hamilton where the other large hotels are situated.

At the present date, there are proposals under consideration for establishing a large first-class hotel in the vicinity of Hamilton; and for providing for more frequent steam communication with the United States during the winter months.

Although objections may be raised to any tendency to flood these Islands with large numbers of tourists, one cannot but realize that a material increase in this trade on proper lines, *i.e.*, by preventing the place from becoming a cheap second-class resort, should benefit the community generally,—and especially agriculturists whose prospects at the present date, as referred to above, are not bright. A large increase in the tourist trade should provide a lucrative home market for truck gardening, fruit cultivation, poultry raising, and dairy supplies of all kinds.

I do not wish to be considered as claiming that the minor industries referred to, could, from a monetary point of view, take the place of the cultivation of the present staple crops of the Colony; but if, owing to competition with the products of Texas and Florida, the cultivation of these crops should cease to be remunerative, and on the other hand the tourist business is largely increased, there should be a considerable demand for green vegetables, poultry, dairy produce, and fruit at remunerative prices.

I have, &c.,

EYRE HUTSON,

Colonial Secretary.

To His Excellency

Lieutenant-General J. H. Wodehouse, C.B., C.M.G.,

&c., &c., &c.,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief, Bermuda.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony &c.	Year.
535	Malta	1906–1907
536	Gambia	1906
537	British Central Africa Protectorate	1906–1907
538	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
539	Leeward Islands	"
540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate	1906–1907
543	Bahamas	"
544	Barbados	"
545	Trinidad and Tobago	"
546	Grenada	"
547	Mauritius	1906
548	Fiji	"
549	Jamaica	1906–1907
550	British Guiana	"
551	Northern Nigeria	"
552	British Honduras	1906
553	St. Lucia...	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907–1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony &c.	Subject.
44	East Africa Protectorate ...	Survey Department.
45	Do. do. ...	Geology.
46	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey (1904–5).
47	Do. do.	Do. (1905–6).
48	Nyasaland Protectorate ...	Do.
49	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate ...	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 796.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1912.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

March, 1914.

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No. 796.

BERMUDA.

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Bermuda,
16th February, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Bermuda Blue Book for 1912, which has been prepared by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. R. Popham Lobb.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
E. M. BULLOCK,
Lieutenant-General, Governor
and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street, S.W.

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REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1912.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(*a*) General Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the year amounted to £83,629, being £4,381 more than that for 1911, which was £79,248.

The following tables show the revenue and expenditure for 1912 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1911 :—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1912 ..	67,672	15,957	83,629
1911 ..	63,707	15,541	79,248
Increase ..	3,965	416	4,381

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1912 ..	20,238	57,972	78,210
1911 ..	19,442	70,658	90,100
Increase ..	796	—	—
Decrease ..	—	12,686	11,890

The increase in the revenue for 1912 as compared with that for 1911 was caused by increased receipts from customs, due to the greater value of imports during the year. The increase would have been much greater had not the duty on certain articles of general consumption been reduced.

The revenue, which amounted to £83,629 5*s.* 2*d.* was made up as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ad valorem duties	39,842	13	8
Specific duties	27,829	9	0
Other Receipts	15,957	2	6
Total ..	£83,629	5	2

Heads of Increase.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Cigars and Cigarettes	725	0	0
Spirits	1,059	0	0
Postal	867	0	0
Ad valorem duty	1,615	0	0

Expenditure.

The principal increases appear in the following items :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Public Works	8,562	0	0
Savings Bank	550	0	0
Legislation	582	0	0
Administration of Justice	472	0	0

Heads of Decrease.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Miscellaneous	22,024	0	0

(*b*) Revenue and Expenditure for last five years.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1908	57,068	53,586
1909	68,921	67,093
1910	78,593	68,392
1911	79,248	90,100
1912	83,629	78,210

The cash balance in hand on 31st December, 1912, was £18,737, as against £13,318 at the end of 1911, and £24,171 at the end of 1910.

The expenditure for the year 1912 was £11,890 less than that in 1911.

(*c*) Assets and Liabilities.

The assets of the Colony at the end of 1912 were as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Cash in Treasury	18,737	3	0
Advances made to Savings Bank ..	6,768	17	0
Temporary Loan to Savings Bank ..	1,000	0	0
Amount Invested under the Dredger Act, 1908	28,303	3	3
Total	£54,809	3	3

There were no liabilities on 31st December, 1912, beyond the Public Debt, which is separately dealt with.

(*d*) Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the end of 1912 amounted to £45,500, made up as follows :—Local Inscribed Stock : Channel Loan, £40,000 ; Causeway Loan, £5,500.

On £40,000 of the local inscribed stock the rate of interest is 4¼ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first mentioned sum was raised in 1893–4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The seventeenth instalment of £1,000 payable from the general revenue of the Colony on account of the sinking fund created in connection with the loan was remitted to London last year.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting St. George's with the

main island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by the hurricane in September, 1899. Instalments amounting to £3,750 towards the sinking fund created in connection with this loan have been remitted to London for investment. The stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

Both loans referred to were raised locally.

(e) Currency.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government bank. The paper money in circulation consists of a limited number of Bank of England notes and in the winter a large amount of United States "green backs." The number of these latter notes in circulation has increased considerably, and they are accepted generally (although not at the banks) at par owing to the fact that they can be used for remittance purposes through letter post. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two local banks, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, Limited, both incorporated by local Acts.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial naval and military establishments in the Colony, issues bills of exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

The Colonial Government keeps a current account with the Bank of Bermuda and with the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, Limited, to the extent of a maximum deposit of £4,000 at each Bank, against which deposits the banks give security to the full maximum amount.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(a) Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £11,000) in 1912 was £626,178.

Compared with 1911 this shows an increase of £99,942. The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1908 to 1912 inclusive :—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1908	390,522	103,581	75,055	5,923	204,587	3,376
1909	440,648	113,946	83,885	6,799	233,982	2,036
1910	517,074	158,043	83,429	7,643	266,981	973
1911	545,540	153,867	84,129	8,193	297,681	1,670
1912	637,178	170,779	95,799	10,567	353,599	6,434

In the above figures the value of Government Stores, Civil, Military and Naval, is not included.

The total value of imports from the United Kingdom for the year 1912 was £170,779, as against £153,867 in 1911 and £158,043 in 1910.

The total value of imports from Canada for the year 1912 was £95,799, being £11,670 more than in 1911.

The following table shows the value of imports from Canada (declared) during the last ten years :—

Year.	*Value.* £
1903	65,693
1904	86,150
1905	81,146
1906	55,451
1907	72,388
1908	75,055
1909	83,885
1910	83,429
1911	84,129
1912	95,799

The total value of imports from the United States for the year was £353,599, as against £297,681 in 1911 and £266,987 in 1910.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £13,730) in 1912 was £102,856.

Compared with 1911, this shows a decrease of £13,339. The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £35,116, as against £106,939 for 1911.

(*b*) Manufactures and Fisheries.

Manufactures.

There is one ice factory, which manufactures most of the ice consumed locally.

There is one arrowroot factory, which is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this commodity.

Bermuda arrowroot apparently continues to hold its premier place in home and foreign markets. The price (retail) per lb. in London is about 2*s*. 6*d*., as compared with 1*s*. 9*d*. per lb. for St. Vincent and other arrowroot. The cultivation and manufacture of this product could be increased, and would add materially to the agricultural prosperity of these islands.

A factory for the manufacture of cigars from imported tobacco was established in Hamilton in 1906, and now supplies the bulk of cigars locally consumed. This industry has caused a decline in the quantities of cigars imported and a consequent loss of revenue. The value of cigars imported for 1912, as compared with 1905, was for 1905, £4,508, and for 1912 £3,909.

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony.

(c) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets still continues to be the chief agricultural industry of these islands. The principal market is New York. The exportation of kitchen garden produce, such as lettuce, beans, peas, parsley, celery, carrots, beets, etc., to New York in the early part of the year is increasing gradually.

The potato crop for 1912 was large, and the average price received in the New York markets was good.

The quantities exported were as follows:—43,891 barrels, of a declared value of £42,281. The quantity exported in 1911 was 32,798 barrels, of a declared value of £32,000.

The quantity and value of the onions exported during the last five years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Quantity. Crates.	Value. £
1908	314,342	47,778
1909	232,368	26,375
1910	134,176	31,094
1911	187,241	42,711
1912	140,000	31,183

The quantity and declared value of the export of lily bulbs was as follows:—2,735 packages, of a declared value of £2,245, as against 4,140 packages, of a declared value of £7,545 in 1911 and 4,148 packages, valued at £6210, in 1910.

The quantity and declared value of arrowroot exported in 1911 was 4 tons 16 cwt., valued at £628,. as compared with 11 tons, valued at £1,170, in 1911 and 6 tons, valued at £721, in 1910.

(d) SHIPPING.

The total tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1912, in comparison with 1911, is shown in the following table:—

VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED.

	1911.			1912.		
	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.	Steam.	Sailing.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
British ..	1,103,320	4,796	1,108,116	1,083,480	3,949	1,087,429
American	820	5,328	6,148	—	13,303	13,303
German ..	225,714	—	225,714	44,836	—	44,836
Norwegian	19,980	—	19,980	32,486	—	32,486
Austrian ..	5,430	—	5,430	28,372	—	28,372
Dutch ..	7,794	—	7,794	10,718	—	10,718
Italian ..	18,584	—	18,584	17,390	—	17,390
Spanish ..	7,992	—	7,992	10,042	—	10,042
Greek ..	—	—	—	8,810	—	8,810
Danish ..	—	398	398	13,320	—	13,320
French ..	2,764	—	2,764	7,040	—	7,040
Swedish ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mexican ..	—	—	—	190	—	190
	1,392,398	10,522	1,402,920	1,256,684	17,252	1,273,936

SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED FOR LAST FIVE YEARS.

Year.	British. Tons.	Foreign. Tons.
1908	658,748	73,320
1909	766,960	73,356
1910	1,103,392	285,585
1911	1,108,116	294,804
1912	1,087,429	186,507

III.—LEGISLATION.

Thirty-nine Acts were passed during the year 1912, of which the following are the most important :—

No. 2.—*The Chief Justices Salary Act.*

This Act increases the salary of the Chief Justice to £800 per annum, it having been represented to the Legislature that difficulty would be experienced in filling a vacancy in the office at the former salary.

No. 5.—*The Green Vegetable Inspection Act.*

Under this Act the system of inspection of agricultural produce before exportation, hitherto applied only to potatoes and onions, is extended to all other vegetables.

No. 13.—*The Fruit Protection Act.*

This measure repeals the Act passed in 1907 with the object of exterminating the Fruit Fly (*Ceratitis capitata*) and provides, at the instance of the Board of Agriculture, a new system, which places the onus of keeping fruit trees free from the pest on the occupiers of premises instead of on the Government Inspectors.

No. 16.—*The Agricultural Department Act.*

The retirement from office of the Superintendent of the Public Garden afforded an opportunity of dealing with the further development of the agricultural interests of the Colony, and the Legislature readily adopted the present Act, the principal provision of which is the appointment of a Director of Agriculture who is to act as the official adviser of the Board of Agriculture and to have sole responsibility for the management of the Agricultural Station.

The other provisions of the Act place the administration of the Station on a more satisfactory basis than existed under the former legislation relative to the Public Garden.

No. 20.—*The Dredger Act.*

This Act authorizes the building of a second dredger to be used first in deepening and improving the west-end channels leading into Hamilton Harbour, and subsequently in other desirable dredging operations.

The necessity for deepening these channels has resulted from the large increase in the number of tourists visiting the Colony, involving the use of large vessels which are unable to navigate the channels at their present depth of water.

No. 21.—*The General Hospital Act.*

The necessity for a General Hospital has been apparent for several years, but hitherto difficulties of various kinds have prevented the carrying out of the project.

One difficulty with regard to the site has been overcome by the selection of a portion of the land purchased in 1896 for a public garden, and the present Act provides for the erection of the Hospital on that site.

The Surgical Unit and Operating Room are to be first erected out of the appropriation of £4,000 provided for the purpose during the year.

Section 3 of the Act provides that the Hospital shall be called the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital in memory of his late Majesty.

No. 22.—*The Pest Destruction Act.*

This in an important Act giving powers to the General Board of Health to take steps to abate the danger to the public health caused by flies, mosquitoes, and rats.

No. 27.—*The Fisheries Act.*

This Act is designed to protect the fisheries of Bermuda, which have been much depleted during recent years by the indiscriminate capture of fish at all seasons of the year by improper methods.

The Fishery Board constituted by Act No. 24 of 1911 is entrusted with the administration of the Act and given power to control fishing by Regulations.

No. 28.—*The Seed Potato Act.*

In consequence of the steps taken recently in the United States to prevent the introduction of diseased potatoes, and in view of the serious loss to which Bermuda farmers became liable if their potatoes were excluded from the New York markets, the Board of Agriculture recommended that this Act be passed.

The measure provides that all potatoes imported into Bermuda for purposes of seed shall be inspected when first landed and the Inspectors have power to reject and to order the destruction of potatoes which are diseased or not what they are represented to be by the labels on the packages.

No. 29.—*The Historic Buildings Act.*

This Act was passed on the recommendation of the Board of Works, which is empowered to acquire any historic sites or buildings which the Legislature might consider desirable.

Properties so taken will be acquired by Government under the provisions of the Public Land Acts 1880–1895.

No. 30.—*The Board of Trade Act.*

This Act transfers to the jurisdiction of a new Board created for the purpose certain powers and duties formerly vested in the Governor in Council and the Boards of Public Works and Pilotage. It also provides for the creation of a new appointment, that of Board of Trade Inspector, who will be the Executive Officer and Secretary of the Board.

The duties so transferred include the inspection of steamboats with their engines and boilers, the licensing of premises for the storage of dangerous commodities, and other similar matters of a technical nature.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Inspector of Schools furnishes the following returns. Twenty-eight aided primary schools, with 2,242 scholars (1,115 boys and 1,127 girls), school fees £1,119. Government contribution £1,835.

The schools referred to are private schools aided by grants from the Colonial Treasury. Nine of them are attended by white children, and conducted by white teachers, 19 of them are attended by coloured children, under coloured teachers. None of them are free schools, the fee charged in most cases being 3d. per week. The legislature provided a sum of £3,121 to aid in the working of the schools and for educational purposes generally during 1912. £2,890 of this grant is administered by a Board of Education appointed by the Governor. The aided schools are inspected regularly by an Inspector of Schools.

In addition to three military schools and two naval schools, there are about 18 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys, the Berkeley Institute, for coloured boys and girls, the Whitney Institute, for white boys and girls, the Convent School, and the High School for white girls.

There are now three Bermuda Rhodes Scholars in residence at Oxford.

The Bermuda Scholarship Act, 1905, provides one scholarship annually, of the value of £150, and tenable for two years, to enable youths educated in Bermuda to proceed abroad at the age of 17 or over to prepare themselves for nomination to a Rhodes Scholarship.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(*a*) *Hospital.*

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government, but during 1912 an Act was passed outlining the building of a General Hospital to be known as the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital.

There is a cottage hospital near the city of Hamilton which is supported by voluntary contributions and Hospitals are also maintained in connection with the Imperial Naval and Military Establishments.

(*b*) *Lunatic Asylum.*

An asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in this Colony in 1846.

The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the institution and there is a competent staff of attendants. 10 patients (5 male and 5 female) were admitted into the asylum in 1912. Two patients were discharged and four died; 65 patients remained in the institution at the end of the year.

(*c*) *Savings Bank.*

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1912, was 2,297, having an aggregate sum of £42,336 to their credit, as compared with 2,081 depositors in 1911, having £40,627 to their credit. The amount of deposits during the year was £17,392, as against £13,132 in 1911.

The amount of invested funds of the Bank on the 31st December, 1912, was £57,885 8*s.* 3*d.*

The rate of interest allowed on deposits is 2 per cent.

(*d*) *Friendly Societies.*

The number of Friendly Societies on the register on 31st December, 1912, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(*a*) *Police.*

The regular police force consists of one inspector, three chief constables, and 22 regular police constables. There are in addition 21 salaried rural police constables appointed by the Governor.

Under the provisions of the Police Act, 1901, the Governor is empowered to employ in any temporary emergency or for any special occasion extra constables not exceeding 20 in number, and may authorize the employment of an unlimited number of special constables on the application of the Inspector of Police or other persons. Special constables are not remunerated from the public treasury.

The cost of the police establishment in 1912 was :—

	£
Salaries (inclusive of the salaries of the three police magistrates)	3,410
Other charges	209
Total ..	£3,619

The cost of the establishment in the previous year was £3,624.

(*b*) *Prisons.*

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 159 (147 males and 12 females), as against 161 (147 males and 14 females) in 1910. Of these 39 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 120 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1912 was £2,121, as compared with £2,679 in 1911.

(*c*) *Criminal Statistics.*

The number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 631, an increase, compared with 1911, of 129.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 497, of whom 340 were summarily convicted, 60 discharged for want of prosecution, 81 acquitted, and 16 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 340 persons summarily convicted 141 were fined, 32 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 109 peremptorily imprisoned, 52 bound over to keep the peace, and six whipped.

Sixteen cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, as compared with 16 in the previous year, and the convictions numbered 11; of these two were for offences against the person, and four for offences against property, and five for other offences.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(*a*) Population (1912.)

At the census taken on the 2nd April, 1911, the resident civilian population was returned at 18,994 persons, the white population numbering 6,691 (3,175 males and 3,516 females), the coloured 12,303 (5,895 males and 6,408 females).

The Registrar General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1912 numbered 19,591 persons, namely 7,000 white (3,339 males and 3,661 females) and 12,591 coloured (6,051 males and 6,540 females) an increase as compared with the census figures of April, 1911, of 597 persons.

The estimated total population, including the naval and military establishments, was 22,073 persons.

The birth-rate was 33·22 (22·57 per 1,000 white and 39·15 per 1,000 coloured), and the death-rate 17·61 per 1,000 among the resident civilian population.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 14·2 per 100 civilian births (1·8 white and 18·2 coloured).

(*b*) Public Health.

The mortality during the year was exceedingly low.

The death-rate among the naval and military garrison, including women and children, was 3·62 per 1,000 as against 5·77 in 1910.

Among resident civilians the rate per 1,000 was 12·42 for white and 18·90 for coloured.

The European infantile mortality per 100 living births was the same as in 1911, namely 12·9, as compared with 19·8 in 1909 and 17·0 in 1910.

The coloured rate showed a marked decrease, being 20·0 per cent., as against 30·6 in 1910 and 30·55 in 1911.

The deaths of children under five years of age formed 40·5 per cent. of the total deaths, excluding still births, as compared with 44·2 per cent. in 1910 and 47·8 in 1911, 27·1 per cent. for white and 46·6 per cent for coloured.

Comparing white and coloured children under five years the death rate per 100 living births was 15·0 for white, 23·9 for coloured, as compared with 20·6 and 42·3 per cent. respectively in 1911.

(*c*) Meteorological Observations.

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, 151 feet above sea level, are as follows :—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 29·987 inches.

Mean temperature of the air, 71·1 degrees.

Mean relative humidity, 81·3 per cent.
Mean hourly velocity of the wind, 11·7 miles.
Total amount of rainfall, 51·38 inches.
Difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 4·20 inches less.
Number of days on which rain fell, 167.

Rainfall.

The amount registered during 1912 was 51·38 inches, nearly 12 inches more than the rainfall in 1911.

In five out of the twelve months the actual monthly amount was less than three inches, averaging only 2·16 inches. The total for these five months was 10·84 inches, while 19·00 inches, or 36·9 per cent. of the total for the year, fell in the two months of July and August.

(*d*) DEATHS FROM CANCER.

The deaths from cancer among the resident civilian population numbered 12 (6 white and 6 coloured), equivalent to a rate per 1,000 of 0·8 for white and 0·4 for coloured persons, or 0·61 together.

The mean age at death was 67·3 years for Europeans and 61·0 years for coloured.

(*e*) TUBERCULOSIS.

The mortality from tuberculous disease was at the rate of 4·72 and 8·42 per 100 living civilian white and coloured births respectively (7 white and 39 coloured deaths).

The estimated death-rate per 1,000 resident civil inhabitants was 1·00 for Europeans and 3·09 for coloured.

The mean age at death was 36·71 years for white and 28·35 for coloured.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Postal Service.

There are 19 post offices in the Colony, and four money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office Department in 1912 was £10,243, compared with a revenue of £9423 in 1911. The expenditure was £6,438, compared with £6,550 in 1911.

The surplus of revenue over expenditure was thus £3,803, as compared with £2,873 in 1911.

The sum of £7199 was paid out in the Colony on money orders and postal orders, as compared with £6,949 in 1911.

The amount paid into the post office on account of money orders and postal orders during the year was £33,286, as compared with £25,049 in 1911. The remittances by means of money orders to the United Kingdom amounted to £13,714, those to the West Indies £2,713, to the United States £7,270, and to Canada £2,328. The British postal orders issued in the Colony amounted to £7,260, as compared with £7,440 in 1911. The value of orders received and paid was £1,219.

It is estimated that the number of letters dealt with during the year was 2,137,360, book packets, printed papers and circulars 661,871, post cards 756,038 and parcels 18,643.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1908	5,717	5,303
1909	7,017	5,963
1910	7,984	6,394
1911	9,423	6,550
1912	10,243	6,438

Telegraphs and Telephones.

There is no inland telegraph.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, both of which companies are under subsidies from the Imperial Government, connect Bermuda with the outside world, through Halifax on the one hand and Turks Island and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Island and Jamaica in 1898. The Company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. Georges for the use of the public.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Civil Establishment.

During the year the following occurrences and changes took place in the establishment :—

The death of His Excellency Lieut. General Sir Frederick Walter Kitchener, K.C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, occurred on the 6th of March after a short illness.

In April, Sir George Mackworth Bullock, K.C.B., was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief and assumed the administration of the government on the 24th of May.

Mr. T. J. Harris, Superintendent of the Public Garden, resigned his appointment on the 31st of May.

Mr. Percy M. C. Sheriff was appointed Chief Justice and assumed duty on the 27th of April.

Tourist Traffic.

The number of tourists arriving during 1912 was 24,830, as compared with 27,045 in 1911 and 15,485 in 1910.

The number arriving in the winter months was 14,310 and in the summer 10,520. Compared with 1911 these figures shew a decrease of 562 and 1,633 respectively.

The cause of the great increase in the number of tourists in 1911 was the placing on the New York-Bermuda service of an additional steamship of large size, the "Oceana," formerly the Union liner "Scot," by an independent company. The decrease in 1912 was caused by the withdrawal of this vessel at the end of the winter season (May) owing to the bankruptcy of the company.

During the year many additions were made to the smaller hotels and several new ones started.

The following table shews the monthly number of visitors during the past five years :—

	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912
January ..	556	676	1,436	2,142	2,906
February ..	1,036	1,747	2,437	3,801	3,735
March ..	1,012	2,537	2,851	3,830	3,596
April ..	322	1,863	1,557	2,422	2,164
May ..	97	998	671	545	789
June ..	148	514	648	806	748
July ..	229	638	896	2,755	1,287
August ..	182	801	1,354	2,460	1,695
September	292	323	1,253	2,298	1,465
October ..	505	645	953	2,529	1,158
November ..	523	745	702	1,309	1,466
December ..	516	1,022	772	2,152	1,909
Total ..	5,418	12,509	15,485	27,045	24,830

I have the honour to be,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

R. POPHAM LOBB,

Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
763	Turks and Caicos Islands	1912
764	Falkland Islands	"
765	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
766	Bahamas	"
767	Gambia	"
768	Fiji	"
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1911–1913
777	Swaziland	1912–1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912
779	Barbados	1912–1913
780	British Guiana	"
781	Entomological Research Committee	"
782	Southern Nigeria	1912
783	Jamaica	1912–1913
784	British Honduras	1912
785	Northern Nigeria	"
786	Malta	1912–1913
787	Uganda	"
788	Mauritius	1912
789	Straits Settlements	"
790	Trinidad and Tobago	1912–1913
791	East Africa Protectorate	"
792	Grenada	1912
793	Leeward Islands	1912–1913
794	St. Lucia	"
795	St. Vincent	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.

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1914.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 803.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1913.

(For Report for 1912, see No. 796.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty
August, 1914.

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1914.

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No. 803.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1912, see No. 796.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Bermuda,
30th June, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Bermuda Blue Book for 1913, which has been prepared by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. R. Popham Lobb, C.M.G.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
E. M. BULLOCK,
Lieutenant-General, Governor
and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street, S.W.

(C58.) Wt.36076/850. 1125&90 8.14 B.&F.Ltd. G.11/2

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1913.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(a) General Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the year amounted to £80,576, being £3,053 less than that for 1912, which was £83,629.

The following tables show the revenue and expenditure for 1913 as compared with the corresponding figures for 1912 :—

Revenue.

Year	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1912 ..	67,672	15,957	83,629
1913 ..	64,711	15,865	80,576
Decrease	£2,961	92	3,053

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1912 ..	20,238	57,972	78,210
1913 ..	22,177	65,602	87,779
Increase	£1,939	7,630	9,569

The decrease in the revenue for 1913 as compared with that for 1912 was caused by decreased receipts from customs, due to a decrease in the value of imports during the year.

The revenue, which amounted to £80,575 13*s.* 10*d.* was made up as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ad valorem duties	37,832	12	3
Specific duties	26,877	18	9
Other receipts	15,865	2	10
Total ..	£80,575	13	10

Heads of Decrease.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Cigars and Cigarettes	321	0	0
Reimbursements	405	0	0
Postal	139	0	0
Ad valorem duty	2,010	0	0

Expenditure.

The principal increases appear in the following items :—

	£	s.	d.
Public Works	10,033	0	0
Trade Development	1,132	0	0
Agriculture	1,308	0	0
Administration of Justice	669	0	0
Gaols	559	0	0

Heads of Decrease.

	£	s.	d.
Miscellaneous	6,832	0	0
Legislative	555	0	0

(*b*) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR LAST FIVE YEARS

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1909	68,921	67,093
1910	78,593	68,392
1911	79,248	90,100
1912	83,629	78,210
1913	80,575	87,779

The cash balance in hand on 31st December, 1913, was £11,534, as against £18,737 at the end of 1912, and £13,318 at the end of 1911.

The expenditure for the year 1913 was £9,569 greater than that in 1912.

(*c*) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Colony at the end of 1912 were as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury	11,534	0	0
Advances made to Savings Bank ..	7,648	0	0
Temporary Loan to Savings Bank ..	1,000	0	0
Amount invested under the Investment Act, 1911	33,273	0	0
Amount invested under Surplus Funds Account	7,412	0	0
Total ..	£60,867	0	0

There were no liabilities on 31st December, 1913, beyond the Public Debt, which is separately dealt with.

(*d*) PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt at the end of 1913 amounted to £45,500, made up as follows :—Local Inscribed Stock : Channel Loan, £40,000 ; Causeway Loan, £5,500.

On £40,000 of the local inscribed stock the rate of interest is 4½ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first mentioned sum was raised in 1893–4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The sinking fund invested on account of this loan stood at £25,386 on the 31st December, 1913.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting St. George's with the main island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by the hurricane in September, 1899. The sinking fund created in connection with this loan amounted to £5,202 on 31st December, 1913. The stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

Both loans referred to were raised locally.

(*c*) Currency.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government bank. The paper money in circulation consists of a limited number of Bank of England notes, and in the winter a large amount of United States "greenbacks." The number of these latter notes in circulation has increased considerably, and they are accepted generally (although not at the banks) at par, owing to the fact that they can be used for remittance purposes through letter post. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two local banks, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, Limited, both incorporated by local Acts.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial naval and military establishments in the Colony, issues bills of exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

The Colonial Government keeps a current account with the Bank of Bermuda and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, Limited, to the extent of a maximum deposit of £4,000 at each bank, against which deposits the banks give security to the maximum amount.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

(*a*) Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £11,035) in 1913 was £559,540.

Compared with 1912 this shows a decrease of £66,638. The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1909 to 1913 inclusive :—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1909	440,648	113,946	83,885	6,799	233,982	2,036
1910	517,074	158,043	83,429	7,648	266,981	973
1911	545,540	153,867	84,129	8,193	297,681	1,670
1912	637,178	170,779	95,799	10,567	353,599	6,434
1913	570,575	154,988	75,494	6,490	325,253	8,350

In the above figures the value of Government Stores, Civil, Military and Naval, is not included.

The total value of imports from the United Kingdom for the year 1913 was £154,988, as against £170,779 in 1912 and £153,867 in 1911.

The total value of imports from Canada for the year 1913 was £75,494, being £20,305 less than in 1912.

The following table shows the value of imports from Canada (declared) during the last ten years :—

Year.	Value.	
	£	
1904	86,150	
1905	81,146	
1906	55,451	£370,190
1907	72,388	
1908	75,055	
1909	83,885	
1910	83,429	
1911	84,129	£422,736
1912	95,799	
1913	75,494	

= 14·19 per cent. increase.

The total value of imports from the United States for the year was £325,283, as against £353,599 in 1912 and £297,681 in 1911.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £13,952) in 1913 was £90,695.

Compared with 1912, this shows a decrease of £12,161. The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £73,175, as against £95,116 for 1912.

(*b*) Manufactures and Fisheries.

Manufactures.

There is one ice factory, which manufactures most of the ice consumed locally.

There is one arrowroot factory, which is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this commodity.

Bermuda arrowroot apparently continues to hold its premier place in home and foreign markets. The price (retail) per lb. in London is about 2*s*. 6*d*.

A factory for the manufacture of cigars from imported tobacco was established in Hamilton in 1906, and now supplies the bulk of cigars locally consumed. This industry has caused a decline in the quantities of cigars imported and a consequent loss of revenue. The value of cigars imported for 1913, as compared with 1905, was for 1905 £4,508, and for 1913 £3,552.

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony.

(*c*) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets still continues to be the chief agricultural industry of these islands. The principal market is New York. The exportation of kitchen garden produce, such as lettuce, beans, peas, parsley, celery, carrots, beets, etc., to New York in the early part of the year is increasing gradually.

The potato crop for 1913 was large, and the average price received in the New York markets was fair.

The quantities exported were as follows:—52,675 barrels, of a declared value of £38,803. The quantity exported in 1912 was 43,891 barrels, of a declared value of £42,281.

The quantity and value of the onions exported during the last five years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Quantity Crates.	Value. £
1909	232,368	26,375
1910	134,176	31,094
1911	187,241	42,711
1912	140,000	31,183
1913	65,074	8,126

The quantity and declared value of the export of lily bulbs was as follows:—2,357 packages, of a declared value of £3,470, as against 2,735 packages, of a declared value of £2,245, in 1912.

The quantity and declared value of arrowroot exported in 1913 was 2 tons 4 cwt., valued at £248, as compared with 5 tons, valued at £628, in 1912.

(*d*) SHIPPING.

The total tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1913, in comparison with 1912, is shown in the following table:—

Vessels Entered and Cleared.

	1912.	1913.
	Tons.	Tons.
British	1,087,429	1,047,115
American	13,303	13 828
German	44,836	75,486
Norwegian	32,486	38,409
Austrian	28,372	27,076
Dutch	10,718	12,428
Italian	17,390	18,030
Spanish	10,042	4,690
Greek	8,810	—
Danish	13,320	13,206
French	7,040	—
Swedish	—	3,250
Mexican	190	—
Russian	—	934
Uruguayan	—	1,414
Total	1,273,936	1,255,866

Shipping Entered and Cleared for Last Five Years.

Year.	British	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons.
1909	766,960	73,356
1910	1,103,392	285,585
1911	1,108,116	294,804
1912	1,087,429	186,507
1913	1,047,115	208,751

III.—LEGISLATION.

Forty-one Acts were passed during the year 1913, of which the following are the most important:—

No. 2.—*The General Hospital Act.*

This Act fixes the site of "The King Edward VII Memorial Hospital," in memory of His late Majesty and in commemoration of his illustrious reign.

No. 11.—*The Agricultural Department Act.*

Under this Act provision is made for an Agricultural Assistant to the Director of Agriculture.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 853.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1914.

(For Report for 1913 see No. 803.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1915.

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No. 853.

BERMUDA:

(For Report for 1913 see No. 803.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Bermuda,
27th July, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Bermuda Blue Book for 1914, which has been prepared by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. R. Popham Lobb, C.M.G.

I have, &c.,

G. M. BULLOCK,
Lieutenant-General, Governor
and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Honourable
A. Bonar Law, M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street, S.W.

(C191) Wt.36076/850. 1125 & 90. 9.15. B.&F. Ltd. Gp. 11/2.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1914.

I.—FINANCIAL.

(*a*) General Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue for the year amounted to £80,504, being £72 less than that for 1913, which was £80,576.

The following tables show the revenue and expenditure for 1914, as compared with the corresponding figures for 1913 :—

Revenue.

Year	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1913 ..	64,711	15,865	80,576
1914 ..	59,464	21,040	80,504
Increase	—	£5,175	—
Decrease	£5,247	—	72

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1913 ..	22,177	65,602	87,779
1914 ..	24,147	65,428	89,575
Increase	£1,970	—	1,796
Decrease	—	£174	—

The decrease in the revenue for 1914 as compared with that for 1913 was caused by decreased receipts from Customs, due to the falling off of imports due to the war.

The revenue, which amounted to £80,504 19*s.* 8*d.*, was made up as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ad valorem duties	32,934	9	0
Specific duties	26,530	5	9
Other receipts	21,040	4	11
Total ..	£80,504	19	8

Heads of Decrease.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Postal	776	0	0
Ad valorem duty	4,898	0	0

Heads of Increase.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Savings Bank	3,000	0	0
Pilotage	1,145	0	0
Reimbursements	1,678	0	0

Expenditure.

The principal increases appear in the following items :—

	£	s.	d.
Trade Development	2,497	0	0
Agriculture	997	0	0
Legislation	755	0	0
Education	409	0	0
Martial Law	5,877	0	0

Heads of Decrease.

	£	s.	d.
Miscellaneous	2,250	0	0
Public Works	5,177	0	0

(*b*) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR LAST FIVE YEARS

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1910	78,593	68,392
1911	79,248	90,100
1912	83,629	78,210
1913	80,575	87,779
1914	80,504	89,575

The cash balance in hand on 31st December, 1914, was £2,463, as against £11,534 at the end of 1913, and £18,737 at the end of 1912.

The expenditure for the year 1914 was £1,796 greater than that in 1913.

(*c*) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The assets of the Colony at the end of 1913 were as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Cash in Treasury	2,463	16	0
Advances made to Savings Bank ..	8,204	9	8
Amount invested under Surplus Funds Account	7,762	0	1
Total ..	£18,430	5	9

There were no liabilities on 31st December, 1914, beyond the Public Debt, which is separately dealt with.

(*d*) PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt at the end of 1914 amounted to £45,500, made up as follows :—Local Inscribed Stock : Channel Loan, £40,000 ; Causeway Loan, £5,500

On £40,000 of the local inscribed stock the rate of interest is 4½ per cent., and on the balance (£5,500) the rate is 4 per cent. The first mentioned sum was raised in 1893–4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The stock is redeemable at par in 1923. The sinking fund invested on account of this loan stood at £25,847 on the 31st December, 1914.

The amount of £5,500 was raised early in 1900 for defraying a part of the cost of repairing the causeway connecting St. George's with the main island, a large portion of which structure had been destroyed by the hurricane in September, 1899. The sinking fund created in connection with this loan amounted to £5,420 on 31st December, 1914. The stock is redeemable at par in 1916.

Both loans referred to were raised locally.

(*e*) Currency.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use. There is no local Government bank. The paper money in circulation consists of a limited number of Bank of England notes, and in the winter a large amount of United States "greenbacks." The number of these latter notes in circulation has increased considerably, and they are accepted generally (although not at the banks) at par, owing to the fact that they can be used for remittance purposes through letter post. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two local banks, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, Limited, both incorporated by local Acts.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial naval and military establishments in the Colony, issues bills of exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

The Colonial Government keeps a current account with the Bank of Bermuda and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, Limited, to the extent of a maximum deposit of £4,000 at each bank, against which deposits the banks give security to the maximum amount.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(*a*) Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £26,000) in 1914 was £539,611.

Compared with 1913 this shows a decrease of £19,929. The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1910 to 1914 inclusive :—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1910	517,074	158,043	83,429	7,648	266,981	973
1911	545,540	153,867	84,129	8,193	297,681	1,670
1912	637,178	170,779	95,799	10,567	353,599	6,434
1913	570,575	154,988	75,494	6,490	325,253	8,350
1914	565,611	133,174	75,352	7,088	349,284	713

In the above figures the value of Government Stores, Civil, Military and Naval, is not included.

The total value of imports from the United Kingdom for the year 1914 was £133,174, as against £154,988 in 1913 and £170,779 in 1912.

The total value of imports from Canada for the year 1914 was £75,352, being £142 less than in 1913.

The following table shows the value of imports from Canada (declared) during the last ten years :—

Year.	Value.	
	£	
1905	81,146	
1906	55,451	
1907	72,388	£367,925
1908	75,055	
1909	83,885	
1910	83,429	
1911	84,129	
1912	95,799	£413,903
1913	75,494	
1914	75,352	

= 12·33 per cent. increase.

The total value of imports from the United States for the year was £349,284, as against £325,253 in 1913 and £353,599 in 1912.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £12,313) in 1914 was £94,348.

Compared with 1913, this shows an increase of £3,653. The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £91,670, as against £73,175 for 1913.

(*b*) Manufactures and Fisheries.

Manufactures.

There is one ice factory, which manufactures most of the ice consumed locally.

There is one arrowroot factory, which is equipped with modern plant andis capable of producing a large quantity of this commodity.

Bermuda arrowroot apparently continues to hold its premier place in home and foreign markets. The price (retail) per lb. in London is about 2*s*. 6*d*.

A factory for the manufacture of cigars from imported tobacco was established in Hamilton in 1906, and now supplies the bulk of cigars locally consumed. This industry has caused a decline in the quantities of cigars imported and a consequent loss of revenue. The value of cigars imported for 1914, as compared with 1905, was for 1905 £4,508, and for 1914 £2,528.

Fisheries.

There are no organized fisheries in the Colony.

(*c*) Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets still continues to be the chief agricultural industry of these islands. The principal market is New York. The exportation of kitchen garden produce, such as lettuce, beans, peas, parsley, celery, carrots, beets, etc., to New York in the early part of the year is increasing gradually.

The potato crop for 1914 was large, and the average price received in the New York markets was fair.

The quantities exported were as follows:—41,125 barrels, of a declared value of £35,623. The quantity exported in 1913 was 52,675 barrels, of a declared value of £38,803.

The quantity and value of the onions exported during the last five years are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Quantity Crates.	Value. £
1910	134,176	31,094
1911	187,241	42,711
1912	140,000	31,183
1913	65,074	8,126
1914	87,279	25,877

The quantity and declared value of green vegetables exported in 1914, exclusive of potatoes and onions, were 167,596 crates, valued at £22,907, as compared with 141,939 crates exported in 1913, of a declared value of £17,789.

The quantity and declared value of the export of lily bulbs were as follows:—941 packages, of a declared value of £1,867, as against 2,357 packages, of a declared value of £3,470, in 1913.

The quantity and declared value of arrowroot exported in 1914 were 4 tons 5 cwt., valued at £530, as compared with 2 tons 4 cwt., valued at £248, in 1913.

(*d*) SHIPPING.

The total tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1914, in comparison with 1913, is shown in the following table:—

Vessels Entered and Cleared.

	1913.	1914.
	Tons.	Tons.
British	1,047,115	1,064,461
American	13,828	33,299
German	75,486	27,318
Norwegian	38,409	36,594
Dutch	12,428	6,752
Italian	18,030	17,230
Greek	—	4,828
Danish	13,206	13,462
Swedish	3,250	3,282
Mexican	—	222
Russian	934	3,554
Total	1,222,686	1,211,002

Shipping Entered and Cleared for Last Five Years.

Year.	British	Foreign.
	Tons.	Tons.
1910	1,103,392	285,585
1911	1,108,116	294,804
1912	1,087,429	186,507
1913	1,047,115	208,751
1914	1,064,461	146,541

III.—LEGISLATION.

Fifty-seven Acts and forty-one Resolves were passed during the year 1914, of which the following are the most important:—

The Produce Inspection Act, No. 1. The regulations of the Department of Agriculture of the United States necessitated certain amendments to the Produce Inspection Acts, which this Act accordingly provided, the general effect being to increase the stringency of inspection and to raise the standard of quality of local produce grown for export.

The Potato Importation Act, No. 2. This Act empowers the Board of Agriculture to regulate the measures required in order to protect the potato industry from risk of injury caused by imported diseased potatoes.

The New York Steam Communication Act, No. 6, authorized the Trade Development Board to enter into a contract with the Canada Steamship Lines, Ltd. for a subsidized steamship service between Bermuda and New York on the terms set forth in certain correspondence between Government and the Company referred to in the Act, which consists only of a Preamble and one section.

The terms in question provided for the construction and operation of two vessels of 10,000 tons and 18 knots speed to perform a weekly service, with special rates for freight and passengers, in return for an annual subsidy.

The measure was the first serious attempt on the part of the Colony to secure a regular service adequate for local requirements and at reasonable rates. The magnitude of the proposal and the financial liability involved occasioned lively controversy and the measure only passed the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council by small majorities.

No. 17. The Dredger Act (No. 2). The expected operation on the New York route of the large vessels provided for under the contract with the Canada Steamship Lines, Ltd. rendered it desirable to constitute a shorter channel from Grassy Bay to inland waters giving access to Hamilton Harbour than would have resulted from the improvement of the existing Staggs Channel. The Legislature therefore authorized an alternative channel to the east of the Staggs Rocks, which had originally been suggested by Commander G. E. Corbett, R.N., Commander-in-Charge, H.M. Dockyard.

No. 41. The War Contribution Act. As the financial condition of the Colony did not admit of an immediate cash contribution in aid of the war fund to the Imperial Treasury of such an amount as the Legislature deemed suitable, provision was made by this Act for the payment of £51,750 in fifteen annual instalments, as the equivalent of a lump sum of the present value of £40,000.

No. 42. The Bermuda-American Steamship Company Act.

No. 43. The Bermuda-American Steam Service Act.

The dislocation of regular steam traffic with New York caused by the war led to a petition to the Legislature from a number of local merchants for incorporation and for a monthly subsidy in return for a weekly service with that port for six months. The former measure is the Act of incorporation. The latter fixes the accommodation and rates for freight and passengers, and provides for a subsidy at the rate of one pound for each 1st class passenger brought to the Colony up to a maximum of £1,000 in any one month.

No. 54. The Registration Act. Besides enacting minor amendments to the Regulation Act, 1899, this Act prohibits the burial of any deceased child as if it were still-born without a medical certificate of the cause of death, a Coroner's order, or a declaration by a responsible person that a medical certificate was not obtainable and that the child was not born alive.

Further provision is made for the registration of the cause of death when a deceased person has not been attended by a Medical Practitioner, and for the appointment and duties of Deputy Registrars.

Resolve No. 40. £800 is provided towards the cost of equipment and transport to a Canadian port of the Volunteer Contingent raised in the Colony for active service during the war.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Director of Education furnishes the following returns:—Twenty-nine aided primary schools with 2,494 scholars; school fees, £1,319. Government contribution, £2,382.

The schools referred to are private schools aided by grants from the Colonial Treasury. Ten of them are attended by white children, and conducted by white teachers, 19 of them are attended by coloured children, under coloured teachers. None of them are free schools, the fee charged in most cases being 3d. per week. The Legislature provided a sum of £3,681 to aid in the working of the schools and for educational purposes generally during 1914; £3,149 of this grant is administered by a Board of Education appointed by the Governor. The aided schools are inspected regularly by the Director of Education.

In addition to three military schools and two naval schools, there are about 18 other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys, the Berkley Institute, for coloured boys and girls, the Whitney Institute, for white boys and girls, the Convent School, and the High School for white girls.

There are now three Bermuda Rhodes scholars in residence at Oxford.

The Bermuda Scholarship Act, 1905, provides one scholarship annually, of the value of £150, and tenable for two years, to enable youths educated in Bermuda to proceed abroad at the age of 17 or over to prepare themselves for nomination to a Rhodes scholarship.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(*a*) *Hospital.*

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government, but during 1912 an Act was passed outlining the building of a general hospital to be known as the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. The erection of this hospital was begun during 1913 and although the work was discontinued for the last five months of 1914 it is hoped that a portion of it may be ready for use in 1915.

There is a cottage hospital near the city of Hamilton which is supported by voluntary contributions, and hospitals are also maintained in connection with the Imperial Naval and Military establishments.

(*b*) *Lunatic Asylum.*

An Asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in this Colony in 1846.

The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants. 10 patients (7 male and 3 female) were admitted into the asylum in 1914. Four patients were discharged and three died; 73 patients (35 male and 38 female) remained in the institution at the end of the year.

(*c*) *Savings Bank.*

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1914, was 3,132, having an aggregate sum of £41,826 to their credit, as compared with 2,369 depositors in 1913, having £43,759 to their credit. The amount of deposits during the year was £15,110 as against £15,419 in 1913.

The amount of invested funds of the Bank on the 31st December, 1914, was £50,032 12s. 1d.

The rate of interest allowed on deposits is 2 per cent.

(*d*) *Friendly Societies.*

The number of Friendly Societies on the register on 31st December, 1914, was nine.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(*a*) *Police.*

The regular police force consists of one inspector, three chief constables, and 22 regular police constables. There are in addition 21 salaried rural police constables appointed by the Governor.

Under the provisions of the Police Act, 1901, the Governor is empowered to employ in any temporary emergency or for any special occasion extra constables not exceeding 20 in number, and may authorize the employment of an unlimited number of special constables on the application of the Inspector of Police or other persons. Special constables are not remunerated from the public treasury.

The cost of the police establishment in 1914 was :—

	£
Salaries (inclusive of the salaries of the three police magistrates)	3,370
Other charges	236
Total ..	£3,606

The cost of the establishment in the previous year was £3,587.

(*b*) *Prisons.*

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 185 (164 males and 21 females), as against 173 (149 males and 24 females) in 1913. Of these 55 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 101 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1914 was £2,874, as compared with £2,680 in 1913.

(*c*) *Criminal Statistics.*

The number of offences reported to the police during the year was 588, an increase compared with 1913 of 46.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 485, of whom 374 were summarily convicted, 7 discharged for want of prosecution, 51 acquitted, and 20 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 374 persons summarily convicted 170 were fined, 21 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 47 peremptorily imprisoned, 90 bound over to keep the peace, and 17 whipped.

Thirty-four cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, as compared with 21 in the previous year, and the convictions numbered 27 ; of these 8 were for offences against the person, 21 for offences against property, and 3 for other offences.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(*a*) *Population* (1914).

At the census taken on the 2nd April, 1911, the resident civilian population was returned at 18,994 persons, the white population numbering 6,691 (3,175 males and 3,516 females), the coloured 12,303 (5,895 males and 6,408 females).

The Registrar General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1914 numbered 20,443 persons, namely, 7,137 white (3,403 males and 3,734 females) and 13,306 coloured (6,436 males and 6,870 females), an increase, as compared with the census figures of April, 1911, of 1,449 persons.

The birth-rate was 31·99 (20·03 per 1,000 white and 38·40 per 1,000 coloured) and the death-rate 15·60 per 1,000 among the resident civilian population.

The infants registered as born out of wedlock were in the proportion of 17·5 per 100 civilian births (6·29 white and 20·7 coloured.)

(*b*) *Public Health.*

The mortality during the year was again exceedingly low.

Among resident civilians the death-rate per 1,000 was 11·48 for white and 17·81 for coloured.

The European infantile mortality per 100 living births was 12·68.

The coloured rate also showed a marked decrease, being 15·6 per cent., as against 30·6 in 1910, 30·55 in 1911, 20·0 in 1912 and 16·3 in 1913. The combined rate was 14·97 per cent.

The deaths of children under five years of age formed 37·7 per cent. of the total deaths,. excluding still-births, as compared with 47·8 in 1911, 40·8 in 1912 and 37·5 in 1913.

Comparing white and coloured children under five years, the death-rate per 100 living births was 20·5 for white and 19·0 for coloured, as compared with 12·7 and 21·7 per cent. respectively in 1913.

(*c*) *Meteorological Observations.*

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, 151 feet above sea level, are as follows :—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 29·978 inches.

Mean temperature of the air, 70·5 degrees.

Mean relative humidity, 82·0 per cent.

Mean hourly velocity of the wind, 12·3 miles.

Total amount of rainfall, 61·60 inches.

Difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 7·94 inches more.

Number of days on which rain fell, 148.

Rainfall.

The amount registered during 1914 was 61·60 inches, an increase of 14·3 per cent. on the decennial average 1904–13.

Two months, February (10·40) and December (10·46) contributed 20·86 inches, or 33·8 per cent. of the total for the year.

(*d*) *Deaths from Cancer.*

The deaths from cancer among the resident civilian population numbered 11 (3 white and 8 coloured), equivalent to a rate per 1,000 of 0·42 for white and 0·60 for coloured persons, or 0·53 together.

The mean age at death was 63·3 years for Europeans and 56·3 years for coloured.

(*e*) *Tuberculosis.*

The mortality from tuberculous disease was at the rate of 2·98 and 6·98 per 100 living civilian white and coloured births respectively (4 white and 34 coloured deaths).

The estimated death-rate per 1,000 resident civil inhabitants was 0·55 for Europeans and 2·55 for coloured.

The mean age at death was 29·0 years for white and 27·0 for coloured.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Postal Service.

There are 19 post offices in the Colony, and four money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office Department in 1914 was £9,036, compared with a revenue of £9,469 in 1913. The expenditure was £6,902, compared with £6,721 in 1913.

The surplus of revenue over expenditure was thus £2,134, as compared with £2,748 in 1913.

The sum of £8,389 was paid out in the Colony on money orders and postal orders, as compared with £7,426 in 1913.

The amount paid into the post office on account of money orders and postal orders during the year was £38,878, as compared with £37,971 in 1913. The remittances by means of money orders to the United Kingdom amounted to £15,250, those to the West Indies £2,603, to the United States £9,904, and to Canada £3,832. The British postal orders issued in the Colony amounted to £7,278, as compared with £7,565 in 1913. The value of orders received and paid was £1,357.

It is estimated that the number of letters dealt with during the year was 1,579,894, book packets, printed papers and circulars 478,298, post cards 571,704, and parcels 21,768.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure for the last five years :—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1910	7,984	6,394
1911	9,423	6,550
1912	10,234	6,438
1913	9,469	6,721
1914	9,036	6,902

Telegraphs and Telephones.

There is no inland telegraph.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, connect Bermuda with the outside world, through Halifax on the one hand and Turks Island and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Island and Jamaica in 1898. The Company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George's for the use of the public.

Subsidies were granted to the above Companies by the Imperial Government ; that to the former Company expired in 1910 and the subsidy to the latter will expire in 1918.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Civil Establishment.

During the year the following occurrences and changes took place in the establishment :—

In September the Honourable R. Popham Lobb, Colonial Secretary and Registrar General, was appointed a Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St. Michael and St. George.

The Worshipful Colonel W. R. Winter was appointed Chairman of the Board of Agriculture on the 3rd of February in the room of Mr. F. G. Gosling, Assistant Colonial Secretary, resigned.

Dr. George S. Patton was appointed Director of Education on the 7th August on the resignation of Mr. H. C. Cox.

On the 19th of November, Mr. S. Stanley Spurling was appointed a member of His Majesty's Executive Council.

In November, Dr. R. L. Tucker, Veterinary Surgeon, was appointed to the newly created office of Government Veterinary Officer under the provisions of The Animal Diseases Act, 1914.

Tourist Traffic.

The number of tourists arriving during 1914 was 14,773, as compared with 21,595 in 1913, and 22,918 in 1912.

The number arriving in the winter months was 8,934 and in the summer 5,893. Compared with 1913 these figures show a decrease of 4,260 and 2,508 respectively.

On the outbreak of war The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company removed their steamship "Caribbean" from the New York-Bermuda route and the Quebec Steamship Company substituted for the steamship "Bermudian" a much smaller vessel, the steamship "Trinidad."

The falling off in the number of tourists in the latter half of the year, caused by the war and a lack of sufficient transportation, seriously embarrassed the hotel interests and other enterprises connected with the business, and a question arose as to whether the larger hotels should re-open for the winter.

It was decided, however, to carry on as usual, even at a loss, and a number of enterprising business men formed a Company to charter a large steamship to aid in the transportation of passengers to and from New York.

The following table shows the monthly number of visitors during the past four years :—

	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.
January	2,142	2,906	2,096	2,575
February ..	3,801	3,735	4,217	2,723
March	3,830	3,596	3,649	2,445
April	2,422	2,164	1,351	1,838
May	545	789	723	672
June	806	748	741	701
July	2,755	1,287	1,118	1,285
August	2,460	1,695	1,593	685
September ..	2,298	1,465	1,647	365
October	2,529	1,158	1,448	293
November ..	1,309	1,466	1,131	360
December ..	2,152	1,909	1,881	831
Total.. ..	27,045	22,918	21,595	14,773

I have, &c.,

R. Popham Lobb,
Colonial Secretary.

6th June, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
816	Imperial Institute	1913
817	Falkland Islands	,,
818	Malta	1913–1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
820	Jamaica	,,
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	,,
823	Zanzibar	,,
824	Barbados	1913–1914
825	Southern Nigeria	1913
826	Mauritius	,,
827	British Honduras	,,
828	Colonial Survey Committee	1913–1914
829	Tongan Islands Protectorate	,,
830	Swaziland	,,
831	Uganda	,,
832	Nyasaland	,,
833	British Guiana	,,
834	Imperial Bureau of Entomology	1914
835	St. Vincent	1913–1914
836	St. Lucia	,,
837	Somaliland	,,
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913–1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	,,
841	Leeward Islands	,,
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
845	Weihaiwei	,,
846	Seychelles	,,
847	St. Helena	,,
848	Fiji	,,
849	Bahamas	1914–1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	,,
852	Grenada	1914–1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 908.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1915.

(For Report for 1914 see No. 853.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

November, 1916.

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No. 908.

BERMUDA.

(For Report for 1914 see No. 853.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Bermuda,
9th September, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report on the Bermuda Blue Book for 1915, which has been prepared by the Assistant-Colonial Secretary.

I have, etc.,
G. M. BULLOCK,
Lieutenant-General,
Governor and Commander-in-Chief.

The Right Honourable
A. Bonar Law, M.P.,
Etc., Etc., Etc.,
Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Downing Street, S.W.

(C315). Wt.45316/1003. 1,000 & 90. 11.16. B.&F.,Ltd. Gp.11/2.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1915.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The following tables show the revenue and expenditure for 1915, as compared with the corresponding figures for 1914 :—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£
1915	67,218	39,249	106,467
1914	59,464	21,040	80,504
Increase	£ 7,754	£18,209	£25,963

Heads of Increase.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Ad valorem duty	4,032	0	0
Cigars and Cigarettes	1,359	0	0
Malt Liquor	1,098	0	0
Spirits	639	0	0
Pilotage	4,763	0	0
Light-house Tolls	1,076	0	0

The increase in the ad valorem duty was due to a sur-tax of 10 per cent. on the import duty which produced £3,854 0*s.* 0*d.* This additional tax was imposed to enable the resumption of the Channel Works which had been discontinued on the outbreak of war.

The receipts from pilotage (£4,763) were derived under a temporary arrangement by which the pilots have become paid public servants, the fees paid by ships being retained by Government.

The increase under the heading " Lighthouse Tolls " was caused by the exceptionally large number of vessels which called for bunker coal.

Heads of Decrease.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Postal	912	0	0
Reimbursements	577	0	0

The decrease under the heading " Postal " was due to a falling off in the sale of stamps, etc., in consequence of the lessened number of tourists.

Expenditure.

Year.	Personal Emoluments.	Other charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1915	23,789	73,854	97,643
1914	24,147	65,428	89,575
Increase ..	..	£8,426	£8,068
Decrease ..	£ 358	..	..

The principal increases appear in the following items:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Administration of Justice	488	0	0
Public Debt	3,449	0	0
Miscellaneous	19,129	0	0
Revenue Department	1,115	0	0

The Public Debt charge was increased, owing to the commencement of the payment of the War Contribution to the Imperial Government.

The increase in the item "Miscellaneous" was caused by the inclusion under that heading of "Extraordinary Expenditure on account of the War" (£4,565), shown separately in 1914, and also a sum of £10,000, being Bermuda Government Notes to that amount advanced to the local Treasury Chest Officer at the request of the Imperial Government against a similar sum deposited to the credit of the Colony in England.

Heads of Decrease.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Agriculture	637	0	0
Public Works	8,147	0	0
Legislative	560	0	0
Trade Development	554	0	0

The large decrease under the heading "Public Works" was due to economies effected on account of the War.

The revenue for 1915 includes the sum of £18,000, being the value of Bermuda Government one pound notes issued in that year, and included in the expenditure under the heading "Miscellaneous" is a sum of £10,000, being the amount of these notes issued at the request of His Majesty's Government to the Treasury Chest Officer at Bermuda.

If these extraordinary amounts are excluded, the revenue for 1915 derived from ordinary sources is found to exceed that for 1914 by £7,963, and the expenditure for 1915 to be £1,932 less than that in 1914.

The cash balance in hand on 31st December, 1915, was £11,283, as against £2,463 at the end of 1914, and £11,534 at the end of 1913.

The Public Debt at the end of 1915 amounted to £45,500, made up as follows :—Local Inscribed Stock : Channel Loan, £40,000 ; Causeway Loan, £5,500.

Both stocks are redeemable at par, the former in 1923, the latter on the 1st January, 1916. The sinking funds invested on account of these loans stood at £29,608 and £5,782 respectively, on the 31st December, 1915.

Both loans referred to were raised locally.

At the beginning of the year 1915 a shortage of currency and uncertain financial conditions due to the War led to the passing of the Government Notes Act, 1915, which authorised the issue of Bermuda Government one-pound notes to an amount not exceeding £20,000, and made such notes legal tender.

On the 1st of March, £8,000 of these notes, all that were considered necessary for Colonial Government purposes, were issued.

In June a further issue of £10,000 was made to the local Treasury Chest Officer against a similar amount placed to the credit of the Colony with the Crown Agents in London.

Under the authority of The Government Notes Redemption Act, 1915 (No. 22), this sum was invested in 4½ per cent. War Loan in the names of local trustees as collateral security for the ultimate redemption of the Bermuda Government notes issued. On the 31st December, 1915, this fund stood at £10,250.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling and English money is in universal use.

The paper money in circulation consists of British currency notes, which were made legal tender under the Currency Act, 1915, the Bermuda Government notes referred to in the preceding paragraphs, and a considerable quantity of United States "greenbacks." The number of the last mentioned notes in circulation has increased greatly in recent years and they are accepted generally at par, owing to the fact that they can be used for remittance purposes through letter post. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two local banks, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N.T. Butterfield & Son, Limited, both incorporated by local Acts.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial naval and military establishments in the Colony, issue bills of exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at nil) in 1915 was £579,828.

Compared with 1914 this shows an increase of £40,217. The following is a comparative table for the two years 1914 and 1915 :—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	Other British Colonies.	United States of America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1914 ..	565,611	133,174	75,352	7,088	349,284	713
1915 ..	579,828	121,779	74,729	9,204	373,138	978

In the above figures the value of Government Stores, civil, military and naval, is not included.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £1,517 in 1915 was £106,149.

Compared with 1914, this shows an increase of £11,801. The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £101,663, as against £91,670 for 1914.

Manufactures.

There are no manufactures for export except a small quantity of arrowroot which is prepared by hand process. The manufacture of this article by machinery has been abandoned, owing to the closing of the factory on the death of the proprietor.

The cigar factory which was established in 1906 has also ceased to exist, but cigars manufactured from Jamaica tobacco still continue to be produced by the former employees of the Company.

Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and lily bulbs for the United States markets still continues to be the chief agricultural industry of these islands. The principal market is New York. The exportation of kitchen garden produce, such as lettuce, beans, peas, parsley, celery, carrots, beets, etc., to New York in the early part of the year is increasing gradually.

The potato crop for 1915 was larger than usual, and the average price received in the New York markets was high.

The quantities exported were as follows:—51,518 barrels, of a declared value of £46,584. The quantity exported in 1914 was 41,125 barrels, of a declared value of £35,623.

The quantity and value of the onions exported during the last two years are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Quantity Crates.	Value. £
1914	87,279	25,877
1915	153,416	22,955

The quantity and declared value of green vegetables exported in 1915, exclusive of potatoes and onions, were 194,665 crates, valued at £25,873, as compared with 167,596 crates exported in 1914, of a declared value of £22.907.

The quantity and declared value of the export of lily bulbs were as follows:—881 packages, of a declared value of £1,104, as against 941 packages, of a declared value of £1,867, in 1914.

The quantity and declared value of arrowroot exported in 1915 were 5 tons, valued at £650, as compared with 4 tons 5 cwt., valued at £530, in 1914.

Shipping.

The total tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1915, in comparison with 1914, is shown in the following table:—

	1914. Tons.	1915. Tons.
British	1,064,461	1,171,811
Foreign	146,541	576,526

The increase in the tonnage of ships which entered and cleared in 1915 was due to the large number of vessels which called for bunker coal during the year.

The majority of these vessels were bound from European ports to the United States in ballast.

III.—EDUCATION.

The Director of Education furnishes the following returns:—Twenty-nine aided primary schools with about 2,000 scholars; school fees, £1,279. Government contribution, £2,518.

The schools referred to are private schools aided by grants from the Colonial Treasury. Ten of them are attended by white children, and conducted by white teachers, 19 of them are attended by coloured children, under coloured teachers. None of them are free schools, the fee charged in most cases being 3*d.* per week. The Legislature provided a sum of £3,600 to aid in the working of the schools and for educational purposes generally during 1915; £3,149 of this grant is administered by a Board of Education appointed by the Governor. The aided schools are inspected regularly by the Director of Education.

In addition to three military schools and two naval schools there are about eighteen other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys, the Berkley Institute, for coloured boys and girls, the Whitney Institute, for white boys and girls, the Convent School, and the High School for white girls.

There are now three Bermuda Rhodes scholars in residence at Oxford.

The Bermuda Scholarship Act, 1905, provides one scholarship annually, of the value of £150, and tenable for two years, to enable youths educated in Bermuda to proceed abroad at the age of 17 or over to prepare themselves for nomination to a Rhodes scholarship.

IV.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government, but during 1912 an Act was passed outlining the building of a general hospital to be known as the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. The erection of this hospital was begun during 1913 and it is expected that it will be ready for occupation early in 1917.

There is a cottage hospital near the city of Hamilton which is supported by voluntary contributions, and hospitals are also maintained in connection with the Imperial naval and military establishments.

An asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in this Colony in 1846. The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the institution, and there is a competent staff of attendants. Eight patients (three male and five female) were admitted into the asylum in 1915. Five patients were discharged and four died; 71 patients (33 male and 38 female) remained in the institution at the end of the year.

The number of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December, 1915, was 2,193, having an aggregate sum of £43,288 to their credit, as compared with 3,132 depositors in 1914, having £41,826 to their credit. The amount of deposits during the year was £14,142 as against £15,110 in 1914.

The amount of invested funds of the Bank on the 31st December, 1915, was £44,049 17*s.* 8*d.*

The rate of interest allowed on deposits is 2 per cent.

V.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The regular police force consists of one inspector, three chief constables, and 23 regular police constables. There are in addition 21 salaried rural police constables appointed by the Governor.

The cost of the police establishment in 1915 was :—

	£
Salaries (inclusive of the salaries of the three police magistrates)	3,685
Other charges	245
Total	£3,930

The cost of the establishment in the previous year was £3,606.

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 195 (176 males and 19 females), as against 185 (164 males and 21 females) in 1914. Of these 70 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 125 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1915 was £2,826, as compared with £2,874 in 1914.

The number of offences reported to the police during the year was 608, an increase compared with 1914 of 20.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 538, of whom 396 were summarily convicted, 22 discharged for want of prosecution, 64 acquitted, and 56 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 396 persons summarily convicted 186 were fined, 36 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 76 peremptorily imprisoned, 84 bound over to keep the peace, and 14 whipped.

Fifty-six cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, as compared with 34 in the previous year, and the convictions numbered 45; of these 11 were for offences against the person, 24 for offences against property, and 10 for other offences.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS.

The Registrar General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1915 was 20,801 composed as follows :—White 7,219 (3,450 male, 3,769 female) and coloured 13,582 (6,565 male, and 7,017 female).

The birth-rate was 31·58 per 1,000 among the resident civil population, being 22·16 among white residents and 36·59 among coloured residents. The death-rate among resident civilians was 16·53.

The illegitimate births were in the proportion of 16·52 per 100 births among the civil population (5·18 white and 20·92 coloured).

The death-rate among white resident civilians was 13·85 and among coloured residents 18·18.

The European infantile mortality rate was 8·1 per 100 living births, and the rate among the coloured population 16·17 per 100, an increase over the rate during 1914 when it fell to 15·6 per cent., but still showing a marked improvement.

The mortality among children under five years of age was 31·2 per cent. of the total deaths (excluding still births), as compared with 37·7 in 1914. The rate among white children was 10·27 of the total death-rate (excluding still births), and 39·67 among the coloured population.

The deaths from cancer among the resident civil population numbered 18 and those due to tuberculosis 33, being 6 among white inhabitants and 27 among coloured.

No outbreak of serious infectious disease occurred.

The returns from the Meteorological Observatory at Prospect Camp, 151 feet above sea level, are as follows :—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year, 29·901 inches.
Mean temperature of the air, 69·8 degrees.
Mean relative humidity, 82·0 per cent.
Mean hourly velocity of the wind, 13·6 miles.
Total amount of rainfall, 61·8 inches.
Difference of rainfall from average of past nine years 7·31 inches more.

Number of days on which rain fell, 138.

VII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

There are nineteen post offices in the Colony, and four money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office Department in 1915 was £8,503, compared with a revenue of £9,036 in 1914. The expenditure was £6,565, compared with £6,902 in 1914.

The surplus of revenue over expenditure was thus £1,938, as compared with £2,134 in 1914.

The sum of £8,013 was paid out in the Colony on money orders and postal orders, as compared with £8,389 in 1914.

The amount paid into the Post Office on account of money orders and postal orders during the year was £142,073, as compared with £38,878 in 1914. The remittances by means of money orders to the United Kingdom amounted to £11,933, those to the West Indies £2,885, to the United States £103,033, and to Canada £18,787. The British postal orders issued in the Colony amounted to £5,434, as compared with £7,278 in 1914. The value of orders received and paid was £1,581.

It is estimated that the number of letters dealt with during the year was 1,392,466, book packets, printed papers and circulars 485,898, post cards 333,912, and parcels 25,687.

There is no inland telegraph.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, connect Bermuda with the outside world, through Halifax on the one hand and Turks Island and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Island and Jamaica in 1898. The Company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George's for the use of the public.

Subsidies were granted to the above Companies by the Imperial Government; that to the former Company expired in 1910 and the subsidy to the latter will expire in 1918.

VIII.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Tourist Traffic.

The number of tourists arriving during 1915 was 10,831, as compared with 14,773 in 1914, and 21,595 in 1913.

The number arriving in the winter months was 7,567 and in the summer 3,264.

Dislocation of the steamship service with New York owing to the War, caused a further large decline in the number of tourists, reducing the business to conditions on a par with those existing in 1907.

A steamship company formed by local business men in conjunction with persons in New York, carried on a service with the steamship "Oceana" during the early months of the year, but the enterprise failed in March, owing to lack of funds.

The following table shows the monthly number of visitors during the past five years :—

	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
January ..	2,142	2,906	2,096	2,575	1,244
February ..	3,801	3,735	4,217	2,723	1,736
March ..	3,830	3,596	3,649	2,445	1,822
April	2,422	2,164	1,351	1,838	881
May	545	789	723	672	284
June	806	748	741	701	432
July	2,755	1,287	1,118	1,285	521
August ..	2,460	1,695	1,593	685	647
September ..	2,298	1,465	1,647	365	499
October ..	2,529	1,158	1,448	293	886
November ..	1,309	1,466	1,131	360	761
December ..	2,152	1,909	1,881	831	1,118
Total ..	27,045	22,918	21,595	14,773	10,831

30th August 1916.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
872	Falkland Islands..	1914
873	Uganda	1914–1915
874	British Guiana	,,
875	Mauritius	1914
876	Leeward Islands	1914–1915
877	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914–1915
880	St. Lucia..	,,
881	East Africa Protectorate	,,
882	Imperial Institute	1914
883	Nyasaland	1914–1915
884	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
885	Weihaiwei	1915
886	Zanzibar	,,
887	Fiji	,,
888	Sierra Leone	,,
889	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
890	Gambia	,,
891	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
892	Hong Kong	,,
893	Ashanti	,,
894	Gold Coast	,,
895	Malta	1915–1916
896	St. Helena	1915
897	Seychelles	,,
898	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1915–1916
899	Gibraltar	1915
900	Bahamas	1915–1916
901	Swaziland	,,
902	Somaliland	,,
903	Cyprus	,,
904	Ceylon	,,
905	Straits Settlements	,,
906	Grenada	,,
907	Falkland Islands	1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon..	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 960.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1916.

(For Report for 1915 see No. 908.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

June, 1918

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1918.

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No. 960.

BERMUDA.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1916.

I.—FINANCIAL.

General Revenue and Expenditure.

The revenue from all sources for 1916 amounted to £107,055, as compared with £106,467 in the previous year.

The total expenditure was £109,652, an increase of £12,009 over the expenditure in 1915.

The balance in the Treasury on the 31st December, 1916, was £8,690, being £2,593 less than the balance at the end of 1915.

A comparative table of the revenue and expenditure for the last three years is given below :—

Year.	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
1914	80,504	89,575
1915	106,467	97,643
1916	107,055	109,652

The increase in revenue and expenditure during 1915 and 1916 is mainly due to War conditions.

The revenue for 1916 derived from ordinary sources (but including a 10 per cent. war surtax on import duties) was £13,088 in excess of that for 1915, and the expenditure for 1916, £16,685 above that for the previous year.

Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The receipts from customs duties and other sources for 1916 and 1915 were as follows :—

	1916. £	s.	d.	1915. £	s.	d.
Ad valorem duties ..	41,166	18	3	33,113	7	5
Specific	31,306	19	0	30,260	1	7
War Surtax 10% ..	7,219	17	7	3,845	4	3
* Other receipts ..	27,360	18	4	39,248	16	9
Total ..	£107,054	13	2	£106,467	10	0

* Including transactions relating to note issues and loans.

The increase of £8,053 in the receipts from *ad valorem* duties was due in part to increased importations and in part to the general rise in prices.

The War surtax of 10 per cent. on import duties was introduced in April, 1915, so that 1916 was the first full year of its operation.

Included under other receipts are the receipts from pilotage fees, which since the outbreak of War have been paid into the Public

(C475) Wt.11/42. 1,000 & 90.. 7.18. B.&F.,Ltd. Gp.11/2.

Treasury, the pilots being remunerated by the Government at fixed weekly rates. The receipts for 1916 under this head were £6,152.

Expenditure.

Expenditure for 1915 and 1916, distinguishing "Personal emoluments" and "Other charges," gives the following :—

Year.	Personal Emoluments. £	Other charges. £	Total. £
1915 ..	23,789	73,854	97,643
1916 ..	23,760	85,892	109,652

The principal items of increased expenditure were :—

	£	s.	d.
Works Department	10,015	0	0
Public Debt charges	5,090	0	0
Trade Development Board	4,103	0	0

The increase on works was due to the carrying out of a normal programme of dredging works and other public works, which had been suspended during 1914 and part of 1915.

The increase under Trade Development Board was for the payment of a subsidy to the Bermuda-New York Steamship Service.

The increase under the head Public Debt arose in consequence of the redemption of the Causeway Loan debentures.

There were no noteworthy decreases in general expenditure.

The expenditure in 1916 directly assignable to war purposes totalled £10,864, chiefly War Contributions (£3,450); Martial Law, Special expenses (including pilotage, censorship, &c.) (£4,114); Separation Allowances (£1,600); and Contribution to Contingents Committee (£1,500).

The assets of the Colony at the end of 1916 amounted to upwards of £37,000.

There were no liabilities beyond the Public Debt and the responsibility for the redemption of the Government Note Issue, amounting to £18,000.

The Public Debt at the end of 1916 amounted to £40,000. This sum was raised in 1893–4 for the purpose of improving the channels leading into Hamilton Harbour. The sinking fund invested on account of this loan stood at £31,363 on the 31st December, 1916.

All Government accounts are kept in sterling, and English money is in universal use.

The paper money in circulation consists of British Currency Notes which were made legal tender under the Currency Act, 1915, Bermuda Government Notes, and a considerable quantity of United States "greenbacks." The number of the last mentioned notes in circulation has increased greatly in recent years and they are accepted generally at par, owing to the fact that they can be used for remittance purposes through letter post. The legal tender of silver coin is unlimited.

There are two local banks, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N.T. Butterfield & Son, Limited, both incorporated by local Acts.

A Treasury Chest Office, established in connection with the maintenance of the Imperial naval and military establishments in the

Colony, issues bills of exchange on His Majesty's Treasury in London, and these bills form the basis of exchange with the outside world.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

Imports.

The value of the imports (exclusive of specie valued at £1,376) in 1916 was £734,799.

Compared with 1915 this shows an increase of £154,971. The following is a comparative table for the two years 1915–1916:—

Imports from	1915. £	1916. £
United Kingdom	121,779	114,587
Canada	74,729	81,815
Other British Colonies ..	9,204	10,447
United States of America ..	373,138	526,133
Other Countries	978	1,817
Total	£579,828	£734,799

In the above figures the value of Government Stores, Civil, Military, and Naval, is not included.

The total value of imports from the United Kingdom for the year 1916, was £114,587, as against £121,779 in 1915, and £133,174 in 1914.

The total value of imports from Canada for the year 1916 was £81,815, being £7,086 more than in 1915.

The large increase in the value of imports from the United States was due to the higher cost of goods and other causes connected with the War.

Exports.

The value of the exports (exclusive of specie valued at £934) in 1916 was £139,825.

Compared with 1915, this shows an increase of £33,676. The total value of the exports for the year of the produce and manufactures of the Colony was £134,897, as against £101,663 for 1915. The increase was caused by the larger quantity of vegetables grown and exported and to higher market prices received, especially for potatoes.

Manufactures.

There are no manufactures for export except a small quantity of Arrowroot which is prepared by hand process.

Agricultural Industries and Botanical Stations.

The cultivation of onions, potatoes, and other vegetables for the United States markets still continues to be the chief agricultural industry of these Islands. The principal market is New York. The exportation of kitchen garden produce to New York in the early part of the year has become an important industry.

The potato crop for 1916 was larger than usual, and the average price received in the New York markets was high.

The quantities exported were as follows:—55,150 barrels, of a declared value of £58,414. The quantity exported in 1915 was 51,518 barrels, of a declared value of £46,584.

The quantity of the onions exported during 1916 was 147,000 crates and the value was £33,446.

The quantity of green vegetables exported in 1916, exclusive of potatoes and onions was 252,233 crates, valued at £36,817.

The export of lily bulbs amounted to 1,224 packages, valued at £1,305.

The export of arrowroot amounted to 1½ tons, valued at £158.

SHIPPING.

The following is the tonnage of shipping entered and cleared:—

Year.	British	Foreign
1915	1,171,811	576,526
1916	973,403	656,960

The tonnage of foreign ships which entered and cleared in 1915 and 1916 is much larger than in previous years, owing to an increase in the number of vessels which called for bunker coal.

The majority of these vessels were bound from European Ports to the United States in ballast.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-eight Acts and twenty-five Resolves were passed during the year 1916, and included a War Pensions Act, No. 6 providing pensions for disabled members of the Active Service Contingents and for their widows and children.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The Director of Education furnishes the following returns:—thirty-one aided primary schools with an average attendance of about 2,000 scholars; school fees, £1,504. Government contribution, £2,520.

The schools referred to are private schools aided by grants from the Colonial Treasury. Eleven of them are attended by white children and conducted by white teachers, twenty of them are attended by coloured children, under coloured teachers. None of them are free schools, the fee charged in most cases being 3*d*. per week. The Legislature provided a sum of £4,526 to aid in the working of the schools and for educational purposes generally during 1916. This grant is administered by a Board of Education appointed by the Governor. The aided schools are inspected regularly by the Director of Education.

In addition to three military schools and two naval schools there are about eighteen other primary schools not receiving any aid from Colonial funds.

There are five secondary schools in the Colony receiving no Government grants, namely, the Saltus Grammar School, for white boys, the Berkeley Institute for coloured boys and girls, the Whitney Institute, for white boys and girls, the Convent School, and the High School for white girls.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(a) *Hospitals.*

There is no hospital maintained by the Colonial Government, but during 1912 an Act was passed authorizing the building of a general hospital to be known as the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital. The erection of this hospital was begun during 1913, but the works being interrupted by circumstances arising out of the war only about one half of the structure was completed at the end of 1916.

There is a cottage hospital near the city of Hamilton which is supported by voluntary contributions, and hospitals are also maintained in connection with the Imperial Naval and Military establishments.

(b) *Lunatic asylum.*

An Asylum for the care and treatment of the insane was first established in this Colony in 1846. The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent of the institution. Twelve patients (6 male and 6 female) were admitted into the asylum in 1916. Five patients were discharged and twelve died; 66 patients (32 male and 34 female) remained in the institution at the end of the year.

(c) *Savings Bank.*

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1916, was 2,195, having an aggregate sum of £42,620 to their credit, as compared with 2,193 depositors in 1915, having £43,288 to their credit. The amount of deposits during the year was £13,419, as against £14,142 in 1915.

The nominal value of the invested funds of the Bank on the 31st December, 1916, was £46,856 11*s.* 5*d.* and the actual value was £42,158 15*s.* 11*d.*

(d) *Friendly Societies.*

The number of Friendly Societies on the register on 31st December, 1916, was nine, but there are a considerable number of unregistered societies.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(a) *Police.*

The regular police force consists of one inspector, three chief constables, and twenty-three regular police constables. There are in addition twenty-one salaried rural police constables appointed by the Governor.

The cost of the police establishment in 1916 was £3,914, as against £3,930 in 1915.

(b) *Prisons.*

The number of persons confined in the gaols was 198 (173 males and 25 females), as against 195 (176 males and 19 females) in 1915. Of these 78 were committed for safe custody till trial, or for want of security, and 120 for purposes of penal imprisonment.

The cost of the gaols in 1916 was £3,559, as compared with £2,826 in 1915.

(c) *Criminal Statistics.*

The number of offences reported to the police during the year was 461, a decrease compared with 1915 of 147.

The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates was 331, of whom 284 were summarily convicted, 3 discharged for want of prosecution, 24 acquitted, and 17 committed for trial in the superior courts.

Of the 284 persons summarily convicted 142 were fined, 8 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 27 peremptorily imprisoned, 32 bound over to keep the peace, and 24 whipped.

Twenty-nine cases were tried in the superior courts during the year, as compared with 56 in the previous year, and the convictions numbered 23; of these 12 were for offences against the person, 15 for offences against property, and 2 for other offences.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) *Population* (1916).

The Registrar General estimates that the total resident civilian population at the end of 1916 was 21,215, composed as follows:—White 7,282 (3,477 male, 3,805 female), coloured 13,933 (6,761 male and 7,172 female).

The birth-rate was 32·2 per 1,000 among the resident civil population, being 23·1 among white residents and 34·00 among coloured residents.

The death-rate among resident civilians was 18·67.

The illegitimate births were in the proportion of 14·42 per 100 births among the civil population (3·5 white and 18·4 coloured).

(b) *Public Health.*

The death-rate among white resident civilians was 14·42 and among coloured residents 20·76.

The European infantile mortality rate was 10·8 per 100 living births, and the rate among the coloured population 21·3 per 100, a considerable increase over the rate during 1915 which was 16·1 per cent.

The mortality among children under five years of age was 35·2 per cent. of the total deaths (excluding still births) as compared with 31·2 in 1915.

The deaths from Cancer among the resident civil population numbered 16 and those due to Tuberculosis 39, being 5 among white inhabitants and 34 among coloured.

No outbreak of serious infectious disease occurred.

(c) *Meteorological Observations.*

The returns from the Observatory at Prospect Camp, 151 feet above sea level, are as follows:—

Mean atmospheric pressure for the year 29·929 inches.
Mean temperature of the air, 69·7 degrees.
Mean relative humidity, 84·0 per cent.
Mean hourly velocity of the wind, 12·8 miles.
Total amount of rainfall, 50·40 inches.
Difference of rainfall from average of past nine years, 3·36 inches less.
Number of days on which rain fell, 141.

VIII.—POSTAL, TELEGRAPH, AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

Postal Service.

There are nineteen post offices in the Colony, and four money order offices.

The total revenue of the Post Office Department in 1916 was £8,565, compared with a revenue of £8,503 in 1915. The expenditure was £7,172, compared with £7,098 in 1915.

The surplus of revenue over expenditure was thus £1,393, as compared with £1,938 in 1915.

Telegraphs and Telephones.

There is no inland telegraph.

An efficient telephone service throughout the Colony is worked by a private company.

The cables of the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, Limited, and the Direct West India Cable Company, Limited, connect Bermuda with the outside world, through Halifax on the one hand and Turks Island and Jamaica on the other. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890, and that to Turks Island and Jamaica in 1898. The Company also have a cable between Hamilton and St. George's for the use of the public.

IX.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Civil Establishment.

Mr. W. E. F. Jackson, First Assistant Secretary, Uganda, assumed the offices of Colonial Secretary and Registrar General on the 19th of February.

No other important changes in the Establishment occurred during the year.

Tourist Traffic.

The number of tourists arriving during 1916 was 11,431, as compared with 10,831 in 1915, and 14,773 in 1914.

The number arriving in the winter months was 6,600 and in the summer 4,831.

The War and the lack of adequate steamship communications caused the decline in the number of tourists reducing the business to conditions on a par with those existing 10 years ago.

27th March, 1918.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
926	Fiji	1916
927	Turks and Caicos Islands	„
928	Cayman Islands	1915–1916
929	Seychelles	1916
930	Trinidad and Tobago	„
931	Gibraltar	„
932	Bahamas	1916–1917
933	St. Helena	1916
934	Ceylon	„
935	Malta	1916–1917
936	Gambia	1916
937	British Guiana	„
938	Falkland Islands	„
939	Sierra Leone	„
940	Straits Settlements	„
941	Cyprus	1916–1917
942	Grenada	„
943	Jamaica	„
944	Somaliland	„
945	Swaziland	„
946	Nigeria	1916
947	Basutoland	1916–1917
948	Gold Coast	1916
949	Ashanti	„
950	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1916–1917
951	Barbados	„
952	Leeward Islands	„
953	St. Vincent	„
954	Uganda	„
955	Nyasaland	„
956	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1916
957	British Honduras	„
958	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1916–1917
959	Cayman Islands	„

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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No. 982.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1917.

(For Report for 1916 see No. 960.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
February, 1919.

LONDON:
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1919.

[Cmd. 1–5]. *Price* 1*d. Net.*

No. 982.

BERMUDA.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR THE YEAR 1917.

1.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue collected during the year amounted to £100,447, as compared with £107,055 during 1916.

The total expenditure was £105,867, as compared with £109,652 for the previous year.

The figures for both revenue and expenditure were however augmented by the isssue during the year of Government currency notes to the value of £10,000, which were immediately paid over to the Local Treasury Chest Officer. In 1916, the totals of revenue and expenditure were also swelled by transactions connected with the paying off of the "Causeway Loan" of £5,500, involving the addition of that sum to both sides of the account. Omitting certain special transactions, the revenue for 1917 derived from ordinary sources was £90,447, as compared with £101,555, and the expenditure £95,867, as against £104,102 for the previous year.

The Revenue and Expenditure for the last two years has been as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1916	107,055	109,652
1917	100,447	107,055

The balance in the Public Treasury at the end of 1917 was £3,271, or £5,419 less than on the 31st December, 1916.

Revenue.

The principal heads of receipt for 1917 showed the following results as compared with the previous year.

	1917.			1916.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Customs *ad valorem* duties	34,267	11	4	41,166	18	3
Specific duties ..	27,319	0	9	31,306	19	0
War Surtax 10% ..	6,093	2	7	7,219	17	7
* Other receipts ..	32,768	2	5	27,360	18	4
	£100,447	17	1	£107,054	13	2

* Including transactions relating to note issues and loans.

(C526). Wt.1/155. 1000/90. 2.19. B.&F.,Ltd. Gp.11/2.

The year 1917 witnessed the practical cessation of the tourist trade, which, though greatly diminished in volume by War conditions, had until then been maintained to a considerable extent. The effect was immediately apparent upon the revenue. The high prices prevailing for all commodities served however to counterbalance to a partial extent the smaller quantities of goods imported. The decrease in receipts from ad valorem duties, viz., £6,899, would otherwise have been appreciably greater.

The principal articles chargeable with specific duties showing decreased receipts were :—Cigars and Cigarettes (decrease £1,902); Malt Liquor (£1,160); Spirits (other than rum) (£1,182).

Imports of rum, on the other hand, produced increased receipts of £1,224, and an import duty of 2*s.* per ton placed on imports of coal in September brought in £350.

The principal decreases under other heads were in Lighthouse Tolls and Pilotage Fees (decrease £2,067), and Post Office (£1,417).

Expenditure.

Omitting transactions relating to loans and note issues, the expenditure for 1917, as compared with that for 1916, was as follows :—

	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1917 ..	24,254	71,613	95,867
1916 ..	23,760	80,342	104,102

The principal head under which increased expenditure for normal services occurred was War Expenditure (increase £2,433).

The principal items were

	£
1. Contribution to Imperial Treasury	3,450
2. Special Expenses authorized by the Governor .. (including pilotage, censorship, &c.) ..	4,446
3. Separation and other allowances to Active Service Contingents..	2,834
4. Grant to Contingent Committee in London	1,600

The first item, an annual sum payable for 15 years, represents the equivalent of a contribution made in 1914 to the Imperial Treasury, equal to £40,000 cash value.

The rates of separation and other allowances payable to the active service contingents were increased during the year.

The outlay on public works showed a decrease of £10,125. As soon as it became apparent that a heavy decline in revenue receipts must be faced, work on the new Government Hospital and dredging operations in the harbours were discontinued and economies effected in other directions. Certain dredging works were carried on at the expense of the municipalities of Hamilton and St. George's and at private charge, the cost of these, totalling £4,419, being refunded to the Treasury. Expenditure on these accounts appears however under the general head of Works Department, bringing the nett charge on the Treasury on account of Public Works to £18,329, as compared with £32,873 for the previous year. The amount advanced for continuing dredging work on the St. George's Channel (Town Cut) which

was to be undertaken at the expense of the Colonial Government is to be refunded to the municipality of St. George's when circumstances permit. The total expenditure on the St. George's (Town Cut) Channel up to the 31st December, 1917, was £46,373.

Assets and Liabilities.

Under the head of Liabilities appears a sum of £28,000, being the value of Government Currency Notes issued under the authority of the Government Notes Act, 1915, and subsequent amending Acts. These notes are inconvertible paper currency of £1 face value. The first issue in 1915 was made without assigned security for the general purposes of the Local Treasury. Two subsequent issues were made in 1915 and 1917, amounting to £10,000 on each occasion for the use of the local Treasury Chest Office. Against these issues the Bermuda Government was given a corresponding credit in London and the sums thus obtained invested in War Loan as security for the ultimate redemption of the note issue. The fund thus established stood at the end of 1917 at £22,566 nominal value.

Public Debt.

The funded debt at the end of 1917 amounted to £40,000, the amount of a loan raised in 1893–4 for the purpose of improving the channels and harbours of the Colony. The sinking fund against the redemption of this debt amounted on the 31st December, 1917, to £33,940 nominal value.

In addition, the raising of a loan of £40,000 was authorised by Act No. 31 of 1917, for the purpose of fitting out a vessel obtained on loan from H.M. Government for the maintenance of regular communication between New York and Bermuda—a step which was rendered necessary by the requisition for war purposes of the steamer formerly employed on this route. The sum raised for this purpose was subsequently increased to £55,000, which was advanced by the Crown Agents for the Colonies at bank rate. No provision for the redemption of this loan has yet been made.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

The total value of imports during the year was £674,493, as compared with £734,799 in 1916, and the value of the exports was £206,538, as compared with £139,825 in the previous year.

Imports.

The cessation of the tourist trade had a marked effect on the imports, which greatly diminished in total quantity. The prevailing high prices served, however, to maintain the total value at a higher level than a comparison of the quantities of goods imported would serve to indicate. The falling-off was most noticeable in the case of dry goods, hardware, and food-stuffs, considerable quantities of which are imported in connection with the tourist and hotel business; wines, spirits (other than rum), cigars, tobacco and cigarettes also showed considerable decreases, both in quantity and value.

The tables showing the origin of imports reflect the difficulties existing in obtaining supplies from the United Kingdom. The subjoined table shows the values of articles imported from the principal countries trading with the Colony during 1917 and 1916.

Imports from	1916. £	1917. £
United Kingdom	114,587	47,796
Canada	81,815	144,123
Other British Possessions ..	10,447	14,476
United States of America ..	526,133	467,404
Other Countries	1,817	694
	£734,799	£674,493

The principal articles imported from Canada are barrels, cheese, fodders, preserved fish, fruits, and flour.

Exports.

The year 1917 was on the whole the most successful in the history of the Island in respect to exports of locally-grown produce. This was principally due to the remarkable success of the potato crop of 1916, total export of which during the year was approximately 74,470 barrels, valued at £108,688, as compared with 55,165 barrels, valued at £58,414, in 1916. Onions exported showed a slight diminution in quantity (132,000 crates against 147,000 crates), but a considerable increase in total value (£47,578, as against £33,446 in the previous year). Other vegetables decreased in quantity and value, largely owing to the absence of adequate refrigerating equipment on the steamers sailing to New York in the autumn and early winter of 1917.

Other exports are unimportant. There are practically no manufactures.

Agriculture.

The cultivation of potatoes has made considerable strides in recent years owing to the efforts of the Agricultural Department to secure the best selected seed and to eliminate disease. Potatoes for seed purposes are grown for Bermuda in Long Island and Maine, U.S.A. and in Nova Scotia, and are carefully inspected before acceptance by arrangements with the agricultural authorities in those centres. Two crops are produced, that reaped in January, being grown from seed from Maine and Long Island, and a second crop reaped in May, grown mainly from Nova Scotia seed. Two main varieties are produced, viz., Bliss Triumphs and Garnets.

The cultivation of arrowroot, which formerly played an important part in the agriculture of the islands, has practically ceased, while the production of lily bulbs has greatly diminished.

The total area available for agricultural development is so limited that there is little room for expansion and only a limited selection of crops can be grown on a commercial basis.

An educational campaign was started during the year with the object of encouraging the use of locally-grown food-stuffs to replace imported articles, thus rendering the islands less dependent on imported foods and obtaining a more economical standard of living. Special

stress was laid upon the cultivation of Indian corn (maize). Encouraging progress was made, but it is too soon to gauge the results obtained. Though much can be done to encourage the fuller use of local crops within the Islands, the arable area is so small that the Colony must always depend mainly on imported staple foods.

Shipping.

The total tonnage entered at and cleared from Bermuda ports during the year, as compared with the figures for 1916, was as follows :—

	British.	Foreign.
1916	973,403	656,960
1917	687,340	400,640

The regular steamers between New York and Bermuda, and those from Nova Scotia and the West Indies calling at Bermuda en route each way, bulk very largely in the returns of British vessels entered and cleared. Other shipping consists chiefly of vessels putting in in distress or calling for bunker coal, the latter being principally west bound freighters in ballast bound to the United States of America.

III.—LEGISLATION.

Thirty-six Acts and twenty Resolves were passed during the year.

IV.—EDUCATION.

There are no Government Schools in Bermuda, but education is compulsory. Government assistance to education is arranged by the payment of grants to schools which reach the required standard and which in consideration of the grant submit themselves to Government inspection and control. The grants are based partly on the average attendance and partly on the standard of teaching given. In cases where parents are shewn to be unable to meet the cost of school fees the fees may be paid by the Government. The system is under the supervision of the Board of Education with a Director of Education as Executive Officer and Inspector.

There are 32 aided primary schools with an average attendance of about 2,000. The total Government contribution towards these schools was £2,897 in 1917. Ten of these schools are attended by white children and twenty-two by coloured children. The total sum paid in school fees by parents of children attending these schools was about £1,540, but school fees are notoriously difficult to collect. The rates paid vary according to the grade of school, the average fee being about threepence per week.

There are about seventeen other primary schools receiving no assistance from the Government, most of which are very small schools.

There are four Secondary Schools which also do not participate in the Government Grants. These are the Saltus Grammar School, for boys (white), the High School and Convent School, for white girls,

and the Berkeley Institute for coloured boys and girls. The latter does most valuable service as a training ground for teachers for many of the primary schools for coloured children. In the secondary schools pupils are entered for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which set the standard generally aimed at.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(a) *Hospitals.*

There is a cottage hospital in Hamilton, maintained by voluntary contributions and receipts from paying patients, and a small nursing home, also in Hamilton, intended principally for use by members of certain Friendly Societies, though other patients are willingly taken. The accommodation at these frequently proves inadequate for the needs of the Island, and a Government Hospital to be known as The King Edward the Seventh Memorial Hospital, was projected in 1912, and is partly built. Owing to the straitened finances of the Colony, it was unfortunately necessary to stop work on this building during the year under report. The total cost of this structure is estimated at £20,000, of which up to date £13,784 has been spent.

(b) *Poor-Houses.*

There is no central Poor-House, the care of paupers being vested in the Parish authorities, of which there are nine. A poor-house in Pembroke Parish, near the City of Hamilton, receives paupers from other parishes at the cost of the parish authority concerned. In other cases small establishments are kept for the care of paupers in other parishes.

(c) *Lunatic Asylum.*

The Lunatic Asylum is maintained at the cost of the Colonial Government, under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. At the end of 1917 there were 65 patients (34 male and 31 female) in this institution, as compared with 66 at the end of 1916. There were 8 admissions during the year, one patient discharged, and eight deaths. One patient was admitted as a result of insanity caused or aggravated by active service in France. The total cost of the institution was £2,682, and £109 was refunded on behalf of patients who contribute, or whose relatives contribute, towards their maintenance.

(d) *Friendly Societies.*

Friendly Societies play a very large part in the life of the population, particularly amongst the coloured section. There are a large number of these of varying stages of prosperity. Only nine, however, are registered under the Friendly Societies Act, 1868.

(e) *Savings Bank.*

The Government Savings Bank is maintained in connection with the Colonial Treasury, with branches at Hamilton, St. George's, and Somerset. It is fairly well patronized though the comparatively high rates of interest available for small sums lent on mortgage render

this form of investment often more attractive than the Savings Bank. The total number of depositors on the 31st December, 1917 was 2,229, an increase of 34 over the number in 1916. The total amount deposited during the year showed a slight falling off, being £12,685, as compared with £13,419 during 1916. The sum standing to the credit of depositors was £32,747, as compared with £42,620 at the end of 191 The nominal value of invested funds was £50,697, as compared wi £42,158 on the 31st December, 1916.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

The Police Force consists of three regular units stationed at Hamilton, St. George's and Somerset, numbering respectively twelve, four, and six constables, each unit being under the charge of a Chief Constable, and twenty-one rural police constables, the whole force being under the control of the Inspector of Police at Hamilton. The rural constables are men resident in the various parishes who are required to do a limited amount of patrol duty (12 hours per week) and are permitted to engage in their ordinary employment as well. Their pay averages from £24 to £36 per annum. The system is no longer adequate to present-day conditions.

The total cost of the force was £3,932 during 1917, as compared with £3,914 for the previous year. Contributions towards the cost of the Police are made by the Corporations of Hamilton and St. George's. The former also employ for corporation purposes a small number of "special constables," paid entirely from the Corporation Funds.

(b) *Prisons.*

There are two prisons, one at Hamilton and one at St. George's, under control of the Inspector of Police. The number of persons confined during the year was 198 (the same number as in 1916), viz., 133 men, 25 women, and 40 juveniles; of these 93 were committed for safe custody till trial or for want of bail, and 102 under penal sentences, as compared with 120 under penal sentence during 1916. The cost of the prisons for 1917 was £3,349, as compared with £3,559 during 1916.

Male prisoners are employed chiefly in stone-breaking within the prison walls, female prisoners on mending and washing clothes and other similar tasks. During 1917, however, a number of prisoners from St. George's Gaol were employed on certain public works in places free from public observation.

There is no reformatory or other institution for the confinement of juvenile delinquents, who are accordingly confined in the ordinary prisons. Although everything possible is done to separate juvenile prisoners, the buildings offer no facilities for the complete separation, which is eminently desirable. A reformatory institution for juveniles is urgently needed, but questions of finance render the establishment difficult under present conditions.

(c) *Criminal Statistics.*

The number of offences reported to the police during 1917 was 417, a decrease of 44, as compared with 1916. The number of persons apprehended or summoned before the Magistrates was 327, of whom 230 were summarily convicted, 8 committed for trial and the remainder discharged. Of the 230 persons convicted, 100 were fined, 2 imprisoned in lieu of fine or security, 28 sentenced directly to imprisonment, and 40 " bound over." In 22 cases (juvenile) sentences of whipping were passed. Sixty-four persons were charged with offences against the person, of whom 4 were committed for trial to the Supreme Court.

Forty-four cases were tried before the Supreme Court, resulting in 32 convictions. Three persons were convicted of rape, four of unnatural crime, and 7 other offences against the person. There was a distinct increase in this class of cases.

The number of juvenile offenders brought before the Courts was regrettably large.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

The total resident civil population at the end of 1917 was estimated to be 21,629, consisting of white, 7,396 (3,532 male, 3,864 female), and coloured, 14,233 (6,909 male, 7,324 female).

The total increase by immigration was 116, of whom the great majority were West Indians of the labouring class.

The birth-rate among the white population was 23·79, and among the coloured population, 34·65 per 1,000, an average of 30·9 per 1,000 for the whole.

The death-rate was 14·8 per 1,000 among the white, and 20·65 per 1,000 among the coloured population.

The increase in population from all causes was 414 (114 white, 300 coloured).

Among the white population are a considerable number of Portuguese, principally engaged in agriculture. The rate of natural increase among this section of the population is considerably higher than in any other.

The infantile death-rate per 100 living births was 21·4 (11·8 among the white population and 25·2 among the coloured). The average infantile death-rate per 100 living births during the last ten years was 19·45 (13·02 white, 22·22 coloured). Twenty six per cent. of infantile deaths occurred during the first month of life.

Illegitimate births numbered 16·9 of the total (7·1 white and 20·5 coloured).

Still-births numbered 4·4 per 100 births (3·9 per 100 white and 4·6 per 100 coloured).

The marriage rate per 1,000 inhabitants was 7·03, being 7·3 among white and 6·7 among coloured persons.

Deaths from cancer among the civil population numbered 12, and those attributable to pulmonary tuberculosis 30 (7 white and 23 coloured).

There was no outbreak of epidemic disease during the year.

The public health organization consists of eleven local Boards, the Parish Vestry in each parish being equipped with powers as local Board of Health, and a General Board who are advised by the Medical Officer of Health.

(b) *Climate.*

The climate of Bermuda is famous for its mild and equable character, extremes of heat and cold being unknown. From October to June is the most pleasant period, July to September being subject to moist hot spells, which are somewhat trying. The principal meteorological data for 1917 are given below.

Total rainfall for 1917, 63·02 inches.
Average rainfall for past 10 years, 55·19 inches.
Highest fall—October, 17·42 inches.
Lowest fall—April, 1·88 inches.
Rain fell 170 days.
Mean atmospheric pressure, 29·953.
Mean temperature for year, 69·8.
Highest temperature recorded, 87·0 (19th July).
Lowest temperature recorded, 45·0 (4th February).
Mean relative humidity, 87·0.
Mean hourly velocity of wind, 12·7 miles.

Bermuda is occasionally visited by hurricanes, which, however, are seldom sufficiently severe to do serious damage.

VIII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

1. Overseas.

(a) *Telegraphs.*

Cable communication with Halifax, Nova Scotia, is maintained by the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, whose line also connects via Turks Island with Jamaica. The cable to Halifax was laid in 1890.

(b) *Ocean mails, passenger, and freight service.*

Considerable difficulty was experienced during the year in connection with the ocean mail service to New York. The regular steamer of the Quebec Steamship Company which had operated this route was removed in June, being requisitioned by the Imperial Government for war purposes. This vessel, which had been specially built for the Bermuda service, had accommodation for 358 passengers, 1,000 tons of cargo, and a speed of 16 knots. A most important feature was her refrigerated chamber of 33,000 feet cubic capacity, for the shipment of island produce, green vegetables etc., to the New York winter market. It was impossible to replace a ship of this description, and the substitute obtained was a much smaller and slower vessel with limited passenger accommodation and no refrigerated space. Fortunately, the shipping season for vegetables for 1917 was over

before the removal of the larger ship was insisted upon. The mail service between Bermuda and New York, which during the winter season had been a weekly one, was now reduced to a nominal ten-day service, which, however, the slower vessel was unable to maintain fully. The limited passenger accommodation now available completed the extinction of the tourist traffic, which other war conditions had already reduced to very narrow limits. The absence of a refrigerated chamber for the shipment of vegetable produce also seriously threatened the trade in these commodities for 1917–18 winter season.

After much inquiry and negotiation it was finally arranged to obtain on loan an Admiralty vessel which could be converted at Colonial expense to meet the special requirements of the island trade, including fitting with a refrigerated chamber. This vessel was secured and was undergoing the necessary alterations at the end of the year under report. The result of the arrangement cannot yet be reported on, but it was apparent at the end of 1917 that the cost of refitting the ship for the local service promised to be very much greater than was at first contemplated, and it finally totalled approximately £55,000.

A regular fortnightly passenger, mail, and freight service between Halifax, Bermuda and the West Indies was maintained by the steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, but owing to the requisition of tonnage for war services it has since been necessary to reduce the frequency of sailings on this route.

2. Inland.

Post Office.

There are nineteen post offices in the Colony, between which an inland wagon mail service is maintained, with two deliveries a day. Considerable difficulty is experienced in maintaining a reliable house to house delivery in the rural districts.

When the islands are visited by large numbers of tourists, the majority of whom are congregated in and around Hamilton, the postal service is an appreciable source of revenue. At present, however, the receipts from this source are greatly diminished. For 1917 the revenue from the postal service was £6,745, as compared with £8,565 in 1916, and the expenditure £5,957, as against £7,172.

Telephones.

There is a telephone service operated by a private company with locally-subscribed capital, extending throughout the island. The service covers three exchange offices and 800 subscribers.

GENERAL.

Lt.-General Sir George Mackworth Bullock, K.C.B., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, left the Colony on the 25th May, 1917,

upon the conclusion of his term of office. He was succeeded by General Sir James Willcocks, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.C.S.I., D.S.O., who arrived on the 1st June.

On the 5th August, 1917, Mr. P. M. G. Sheriff, Chief Justice, died suddenly at his residence in Hamilton. He was succeeded by Mr. Colin Rees-Davies, K.C., formerly Solicitor General of British Guiana.

The year 1917 was the most difficult period which the Colony has experienced since the outbreak of war. The prosperity of Bermuda depends mainly upon the tourist trade and the shipment of vegetable products to New York. The cessation of the former was accordingly a severe blow, and the difficulty of the situation was later increased by the requisition for war purposes of the regular steamer sailing between the Colony and New York. Fortunately, permission was obtained to retain this vessel until the bulk of the crops for the 1916–17 season had been shipped, and an unusually good year from an agricultural standpoint helped to redress the balance. Since then conditions have been difficult, and business has been in many branches almost at a standstill. The manner in which this position has been supported speaks well for the general soundness of business methods in the Colony.

The high prices of food-stuffs prevailing throughout the world have added to the difficulties experienced. As an instance, it may be quoted that bread, which in pre-war times averaged 2*d.* per lb., rose in 1917 to about 5*d.* Fortunately agriculture and the coaling trade maintained their position and served to furnish employment, so that there was very little unemployment and no serious hardship. Supplies of staple foodstuffs were placed under control of a Board, who arranged for the equitable distribution of the quantities imported, which were limited by restrictions imposed by the United States Government. The quantities allowed were adequate, and no shortage of staple foodstuffs occurred, though difficulty was experienced in connection with supplies of forage for animals, which more than once fell markedly below requirements.

One result of the prevailing " hard times " has been the movement to extend and encourage the use of locally-grown food crops, in which good progress has been made. If the conditions existing result in the fuller utilization of local resources in this respect the difficulties and high prices experienced will not have been without some compensatory benefit.

The special arrangements which have been necessary to ensure the maintenance of regular communication between New York and Bermuda, have placed a serious burden upon the finances of the Colony, already considerably straitened by the general contraction of business. Rigid economy in all branches of the public service has been necessary, and all public works other than essential maintenance charges have been discontinued. Financial stringency has also caused the postponement of certain much needed reforms. The Colony is, however, well able to meet its liabilities, and there is no reason to fear that development will be permanently retarded.

It is pleasant to be able to report that in spite of adverse financial conditions, Bermuda's contribution to the Red Cross " Our Day "

collection reached the highest figure on record, viz., £2,082 17*s.* 2*d.* Other patriotic funds have also received generous support.

Two contingents have been furnished from the Colony for active service in France, one of infantry from the Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps and one of artillery (coloured), recruited mainly from the Bermuda Militia Artillery. The reports received of the excellent work done by both contingents have been a source of legitimate pride to the whole Colony. They have unfortunately suffered a high rate of casualties in the infantry contingent. In addition to the men serving in the two contingents a considerable number have joined other corps.

Generally it may be said that while the Colony has " felt the pinch " of war conditions during 1917 to a greater degree than previously experienced, it has been able to meet the situation adequately, and without detriment to its future prospects.

COLONIAL REPORTS &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
947	Basutoland	1916–1917
948	Gold Coast	1916
949	Ashanti	,,
950	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1916–1917
951	Barbados	,,
952	Leeward Islands	,,
953	St. Vincent	,,
954	Uganda	,,
955	Nyasaland	,,
956	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1916
957	British Honduras	,,
958	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1916–1917
959	Cayman Islands	,,
960	Bermuda	1916
961	Mauritius	,,
962	Ashanti	1917
963	Falkland Islands	,,
964	Seychelles	,,
965	Weihaiwei	,,
966	Fiji	,,
967	Solomon Islands	1917–1918
968	Grenada	,,
969	Turks and Caicos Islands	1917
970	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
971	Ceylon	,,
972	Hong Kong	,,
973	Zanzibar	,,
974	St. Helena	,,
975	Malta	,,
976	British Guiana	,,
977	St. Vincent	1917–1918
978	Bahamas	,,
979	Gambia	1917
980	Jamaica	1917–1918
981	Gibraltar	1917

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BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1918.

NOTE ON HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these Islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the "Legatio Babylonica" of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the Island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship, The Sea Venture, while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels, conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called after the name of the Admiral's ship, The Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him, "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers, called "The Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684 a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the islands, was dissolved.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620

When the Government passed to the Crown in 1684 the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I.—GENERAL REVIEW.

1. The cessation of hostilities now enables a brief review to be made of the changes which have visited this Colony during the War, with especial reference to the year under report.

2. Bermuda subsists mainly on three forms of trade:—First the tourist and hotel business with its attendant activities, secondly the production and export of vegetables for the New York market, thirdly the supply of coal and other requirements to passing shipping, including the repair of disabled ships. The presence of a garrison and dockyard establishment also plays an important part in local business as the supply of their requirements is to some extent undertaken by the local provision trade and they are large employers of labour.

3. The tourist traffic which had dwindled to very narrow limits by the beginning of 1917, disappeared almost entirely after that time, and during the year under report all the larger hotels and most of the smaller ones have remained closed. As illustrating this it may be noted that while arrivals and departures of 1st class passengers during 1913 totalled about 20,750, during 1918 they numbered only 1,330, a figure which little more than covers the ordinary movements of residents, naval and military officers and passing travellers. The reduction in this traffic affects nearly all branches of business and most forms of employment and reduces greatly the amount of money in circulation.

4. The vegetable export trade was especially prosperous during the war period and reached in 1917 the highest level in its history for quantities exported. The high prices realized also served to swell the declared value of these exports though the effect of high prices on the prosperity of the growers was to a large extent counterbalanced

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by the general rise in the cost of living. The export trade was affected in 1917, and early in 1918, by difficulties in shipping which are referred to in more detail under heads III and IV.

5. The development of the vegetable trade, however, was far from being sufficient to compensate for the loss in tourist trade, and a condition of real privation would have been the result had not the increased shipping activities brought about by war conditions served to redress the balance. Not only was there much increased activity in the naval Dockyard, and a much larger number of visiting warships both British and Allied than in pre-War times, but the establishment in the islands by the United States Navy of a base and supply depôt for smaller craft placed considerable sums in local circulation, and brought large numbers of visiting sailors, whose purchases, while on shore, were of great assistance in maintaining certain lines of trade, the full effect of which was scarcely realized until the withdrawal of the American base and reduction in activity on the part of our own ships.

6. The geographical position of the islands also rendered them a valuable coaling port and port of refuge, more particularly when the shortage of coal in Europe began to be felt, and the number of vessels calling was greatly enhanced with attendant benefits to those engaged in the business of coaling and supplying passing shipping. Changes in the organization of the mercantile marine traffic reduced the number of calling ships for 1918 (see under III Shipping).

7. These conditions enabled merchants to "carry on" during the war period more successfully than might have been expected, though the restriction of trade was felt with increasing pressure in the latter part of the War, especially during 1918. The greatly increased prices of all commodities give to the figures for imports during the War a fallacious appearance of prosperity and progress not borne out by an examination of the quantities dealt in. Speaking generally, however, trade and employment were sufficiently well maintained to secure the population from privation and business failures, though the increase in the cost of living was acutely felt here as elsewhere especially amongst the salaried and wage-earning classes. The effect of these conditions was probably more apparent in Bermuda than in many other small Colonies, as the islands are practically entirely dependent on imported foodstuffs.

8. Supplies of foodstuffs were adequate throughout the war period. Imports of staple articles were restricted in quantity and were placed under control of a Board who regulated their distribution among retailers. No system of individual rationing was necessary. Sugar was obtained from the West Indies in sufficient quantities. Any further reduction, such as several times appeared imminent, would have rendered the introduction of individual rationing necessary, a course which, owing to the absence of "substitutes" in the Colony, would have entailed especial privation on this community.

9. The effect of war conditions on Government finance is more fully dealt with in the section on that subject. In general terms the War involved the cessation of all new works in progress, including, especially during 1918, all progress on channel improvements and on the new Government Hospital which was commenced before the War; and also the reduction to a minimum of expenditure on maintenance

and establishment charges. The money so saved went to meet the special expenditure arising out of the War, which amounted in 1918 to £15,063. The special outlay required to meet the expenses of providing steamship communication with New York has been met up to the present by an advance from the Crown Agents for the Colonies. To repay this, or the greater part of it, one of the Colonial dredgers has been sold to the Government of Nigeria. To sum up, it may be said that while expenditure and revenue was maintained at a somewhat higher level than prior to the War, all progress and improvement was brought to a standstill.

10. The general conditions of living were considerably affected by the absence of the usual influx of tourists and the high cost of commodities, but owing to the various compensating agencies referred to above, the restriction was not nearly as oppressive as in places nearer the War-zone. The sale of liquor was limited to the hours prevailing in the United Kingdom, and, by request of the American authorities, altogether prohibited to officers and men of the United States Navy. These restrictions were removed shortly after the Armistice, but a general restrictive Act passed by the local Legislature on its own initiative limiting the hours of sale to between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. remains in force until the technical "termination" of the War. Apart from these restrictions on the sale of liquor and the usual restrictions on embarkation and disembarkation of travellers for which special passes were required, the local population was subjected to little or no disturbance of its normal life.

11. There was noticed during the War a tendency to an increase in crime; the number of trials before the Supreme Court (29 in 1918, with 19 convictions) being disproportionately high for so small a population. Serious assaults and housebreaking were regrettably frequent; but the chief feature was the proportion of juvenile crime. No reformatory or similar institution for the detention and education of juvenile offenders has yet been established, but some such institution is an obvious and urgent need. It is doubtful whether war conditions were to any great degree responsible for the apparent increase in crime, but it seems probable that the high cost of living must have been a contributing factor.

12. "War work" of various descriptions was steadily and enthusiastically carried on especially by the ladies of the Colony, who deserve the highest credit for the manner in which they maintained keenness in the various organizations at so great a distance from the War-zone. During the War over £18,000 was privately subscribed to various War charities, local and general, besides large contributions in kind of garments, hospital necessaries, &c. The principal contribution of note in 1918 was £1,988 towards the Red Cross.

13. About 550 Bermudians served with His Majesty's Forces during the War, of whom 379 served in the "Bermuda Contingents."

14. On the whole the Colony managed to maintain its position during the War and emerges from it without serious financial burden and ready to resume its interrupted progress where the outbreak of war halted its path. It has had the satisfaction of playing a useful, if inconspicuous, rôle in the organization of sea-warfare in the Atlantic, and of having proved its value as an outpost of Britain overseas.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

15. The total revenue for 1918 amounted to £91,645, and the total expenditure to £90,684.

16. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the preceding 5 years are given below.

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1913	80,576	87,779
1914	80,504	89,575
1915	106,467	97,643
1916	107,055	109,652
1917	100,447	105,867

[It should be noted that the figures given in the Annual Report for 1917, for the total expenditure of that year (£107,055) were incorrectly given.]

17. In connection with the above table, however, the following special conditions should be noted.

In 1914 the revenue was augmented by the issue of £8,000 worth of inconvertible £1 currency notes, issued for the general purposes of the Treasury. A further issue of £10,000 was made in 1915 as an advance to the Imperial Treasury Chest in Bermuda being repaid in London. This issue accordingly serves to augment both revenue and expenditure of that year by this amount. In 1916 the paying of a loan of £5,500 taken up for work in connection with the Causeway between the main Island and St. George's Island similarly increased by that sum the revenue and expenditure total. In 1917 a further issue of £10,000 in currency notes to the Imperial Treasury Chest affected the totals on both sides of the account for that year. Further details of the issue of notes will be found under the head of "Assets and Liabilities."

The cash balance in the local Treasury on the 31st December, 1918, was £4,231, as compared with £3,271 at the end of 1917.

18. Certain other causes which led to an increase in revenue and expenditure during the war period, more apparent than real, are noted below under the heads of "Revenue and Expenditure."

Revenue.

19. The principal heads of revenue for 1918 are compared in the subjoined table with the results of 1917.

	1917.			1918.		
Customs :	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
ad valorem duties ..	34,267	11	4	35,004	4	7
Specific duties ..	27,319	0	9	28,099	7	9
War Surtax 10% ..	6,093	2	7	6,306	18	7
Other Receipts ..	32,768	2	5*	22,234	9	1
	£100,447	17	1	£91,645	0	0

* Includes £10,000 from note issue *vide* above.

20. Customs Revenue in 1918 was augmented by the imposition of an import duty of 2*s.* per ton on coal which produced a revenue of

£1,796. This duty was introduced late in 1917 and 1918 was the first full year of operation. The receipts from tobacco showed a considerable increase, while there was a falling off of £3,959 in the receipts from duties on spirits other than rum. Rum and malt liquor together showed an increase of £1,058.

Under "Other Receipts" an increase of £2,163 in postal revenue is the most noteworthy, due to the imposition of a stamp duty on bills of lading (6*d.*) and on cheques (1*d.*) and also a War-surtax of 1*d.* on letters posted to other parts of the British Empire.

21. Throughout the war period in addition to the increase in revenue figures due to the inclusion of transactions relating to note issues and the repayment of the loan noted in paragraph 17, the total figures were further swelled by the inclusion of receipts from pilotage. These dues are ordinarily paid direct to the pilots but at the outbreak of war the pilots were placed under Government control and paid by salaries, all dues received being paid into the Treasury, an arrangement which increased both sides of the account. The amount collected for pilotage dues during 1918 was £2,916, being £1,915 less than in the previous year.

Expenditure.

22. Expenditure during 1918 showed a decrease of £5,867, as compared with 1917, omitting in the latter case expenditure on account of note issues.

Distinguishing personal emoluments from other charges the comparative figures for the two years were as follows:—

	Personal Emoluments.	Other Charges.	Total.
	£	£	£
1917 ..	24,254	71,613	95,867
1918 ..	24,389	66,295	90,684

23. Owing to the general rise in prices there was an increase in the cost of maintenance of public institutions and permanent establishment charges other than salaries. Expenditure on public works was reduced to a minimum, being £14,508, as compared with £32,873 during 1916, when work was carried on at nearly normal rate. Expenditure on war services totalled £15,063, the highest yet recorded. This included the cost of separation allowance and comforts for the Active Service Contingents, disability pensions, local services such as pilotage (v. para. 21), censorship, &c., and the annual grant of £3,450 payable to the Imperial Treasury for 15 years as the equivalent of a cash contribution of £40,000 in aid of war expenditure in Great Britain. Dredging work on the steamer channels leading to Hamilton and St. George's was interrupted.

24. The expenditure shown above does not represent the total outlay to which the Colony was committed during the year as it takes no account of the special liability incurred in connection with the maintenance of steamship communication with New York; the operation of the s.s. "Charybdis," a cruiser lent to the Colony by the Admiralty for conversion to mercantile use, has proved expensive, and at the end of 1918 the deficit on the year's operation was £6,646. The operation accounts of this vessel do not pass through the Treasury and are consequently omitted from the published financial returns.

Public Debt.

25. The funded debt is £40,000, on which interest is payable at 4½ per cent. The debt is redeemable in 1924, and the sinking funded investments at the end of 1918 totalled £35,902 nominal value.

In addition a sum of £55,000 was borrowed in 1917 from the Crown Agents for the Colonies for the reconstruction of H.M.S. Charybdis and her conversion to mercantile use. To meet this, one of the Colonial dredgers has been sold to the Nigerian Government but the nett sum realised will fall short of the above amount by at least £10,000. No provision has yet been made for the repayment of the balance of this loan.

Assets and Liabilities.

26. The total liabilities at the end of 1918 including the above-mentioned £55,000 of the Charybdis loan amounted to £86,781; the other liabilities being £3,781 due to the Corporation of St. George for money advanced to continue dredging work on the channel to St. George's Harbour, and £28,000 the value of Government currency notes issued since 1914.

27. The total assets were £47,792, which includes an investment of £31,293 (face value) as a note guarantee fund against the currency notes issued and an amount of £12,267 due to the Treasury from the Government Savings Bank for advances towards the cost of management over a long period of years. The position of the Bank is now improving and it is in a position to repay about £3,000 of these advances whenever called upon.

General.

28. It is now possible to review briefly the immediate effect of the War upon the finances of the local Government. The increase in both revenue and expenditure during the war period shown by the figures in para. 16 is due largely to the inclusion of the note issue, and loan transaction referred to above and to the inclusion of pilotage service under Government accounts.

Other expenses have been reduced to a minimum but the sums saved by reduction in Public Works and other services have been counterbalanced by the increased expenditure on actual war services, which totalled up to the end of 1918, £57,137. The rise in prices during the War has also had an important effect in maintaining the level of receipts from *ad valorem* duties which, in spite of greatly decreased imports, were only £2,828 less in 1918 than in 1913. An additional charge of 10 per cent. on all customs duties collected, together with certain specific increases and new stamp taxes have assisted in maintaining revenue.

29. At the end of 1918 the general position was that the Colony was in a position to meet all liabilities with the exception of a floating balance which will amount, probably, to something over £10,000, due to the Crown Agents on account of the "Charybdis" loan. Provision for this must be made in the near future. There remains also an unknown liability in respect to the cost of the operation of the s.s "Charybdis" the amount of which cannot be determined accurately until the final disposal of this vessel is determined upon.

The cessation of War expenditure will release a considerable sum for current services but the general rise in prices will make it necessary to raise in future a considerably higher revenue than in the past, to meet increasing expenses of administration upon the resumption of normal conditions.

III.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

Imports and Exports.

30. The total value of imports was £692,742, and of the exports £119,977. Imports and exports during the period 1914–1918 were valued as follows:—

	Imports. £	Exports. £
1914	565,611	106,661
1915	579,828	101,663
1916	734,799	139,825
1917	674,493	207,724
1918	692,742	139,825

Imports.

31. While the value of imports has increased during the war period their nature has necessarily altered considerably. The cessation of the tourist trade in 1916–17 naturally resulted in a considerable diminution in the import of many kinds of goods which were largely sold to tourists, particularly clothing, and building material, such as timber, cement, &c., and certain kinds of wines and spirits. This decrease was, however, largely compensated for by goods imported for the supply of the British and Allied navies and for the increased numbers of merchants ships calling for coal and other supplies during the years 1914–1917. The number of vessels calling decreased in 1917–18. As an indication of the trend of this form of business it may be noted that the imports of coal which totalled 11,984 tons in 1913 rose in 1916 to 36,174 tons and fell again in 1918 to 16,697. The principal factor, however, in maintaining the value of imports was the general and rapid rise in the prices of all commodities, particularly during 1917 and 1918. But for this, imports in spite of compensating influences would have shown a considerable increase as compared with figures for the years immediately preceding the War.

Exports.

32. Bermuda exports consist practically entirely of vegetables grown for the New York market. Prices have on the whole been good during the War reaching in some instances very high levels. The crop exports for 1917 for instance were valued at over £180,000, as during the year unusually large quantities were shipped at prices much above the average. During 1918 the value of the onions, potatoes, and other vegetables exported was £110,800. The export of many kinds of vegetables was curtailed during the early part of the year, which is the season of heaviest shipments of "green" vegetables, by the absence of refrigerated space on the steamer then plying between Bermuda and New York. Exports of vegetables go almost entirely to New York where they arrive in the winter season and fetch "luxury" prices. There are occasionally small shipments of potatoes and onions to the West Indies.

Direction of Trade.

33. The absence of communication with Europe and the difficulty during the latter years of the War in getting many kinds of goods has, as might be expected, resulted in the transference of the import trade from the United Kingdom to the United States of America and Canada. In 1913, imports from the United Kingdom were valued at £155,000, those from the United States of America at £325,000, and those from Canada at £75,000. In 1918 the corresponding figures were: from the United Kingdom £35,773, from the United States of America £434,676, and from Canada £181,042. About £40,000 worth of merchandize, mainly rum, molasses, and sugar, was imported from the British West Indies, as compared with slightly over £5,000 in value imported from the same source during 1913.

Shipping.

34. Tonnage entered and cleared fell off considerably during 1918 owing to causes beyond local influence arising from the general conditions affecting shipping during the War. The figures for the last 3 years are as follows:—

	British.	Total.
1916	973,403	1,630,360
1917	687,340	1,087,980
1918	368,343	732,613

Of the foreign tonnage calling, American ships total 202,142, the next largest figure being that for Italian tonnage, viz.: 76,798. Of vessels entered and cleared those using the Port of Hamilton totalled 422,819 tons, and those recorded at St. George's, 309,794. Hamilton is the port of call for the regular mail steamers, and St. George's the more usual port of refuge for vessels calling for coal, supplies, or repairs.

Banks.

35. There are two Banks in the Colony, the Bank of Bermuda, Ltd., and the Bank of N.T. Butterfield & Son, Ltd., both with head offices in Hamilton. Exchange is obtained mainly by the purchase and sale of bills on London drawn by the local Treasury Chest Office to meet the requirements of His Majesty's forces; and during and after the sale in New York of the vegetable crops by drawing on the credits in New York thus obtained. The average premium for Sight Bills on London during 1918 was 1 per cent. and for drafts on New York, 2 per cent.

36. There is also a Government Savings Bank which held deposits on the 31st December, 1918, of £44,957 to the credit of 2,286 accounts, an increase of 57 depositors since 1917. The amount deposited during the year was £12,993, and the amount withdrawn £11,584. Interest on deposits is at 2 per cent. The invested funds of the bank were valued, at the market rates current on the 31st December, at £44,550.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Overseas.

37. Prior to the War bi-weekly communication with New York was maintained during the winter months by steamers of the Quebec Steamship Company, supplemented by tourist steamers of the Royal

Mail Steam Packet Company. The latter Company also conducted a fortnightly service between Nova Scotia and the West Indian Islands calling at Bermuda en route. In addition steamers of the Cayo Line direct from England called about every six weeks. These services were gradually reduced or discontinued until, in 1917, steamships calling regularly were confined to one vessel of the Quebec Steamship Company sailing between Bermuda and New York, and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's Canada-West Indies Service. The latter was reduced by the withdrawal of two steamers for war services. In June 1917 the Quebec Steamship Company's vessel, s.s. "Bermudian" was requisitioned for war purposes and a much smaller and slower vessel substituted, which lacked the refrigerating plant necessary for the shipment of "green" vegetables. By this change all prospects of a continuance of the tourist traffic during 1917–18 season, even on a much reduced scale, disappeared, together with the facilities for the trade in green vegetables, while the tonnage available for the shipment of other crops (potatoes and onions) was reduced to wholly inadequate dimensions. After considerable inquiry and negotiation an arrangement was finally concluded with the Admiralty whereby the 3rd class cruiser "Charybdis" was placed at the disposal of the Colony and adapted at Colonial expense to serve, as far as possible, the requirements of the New York trade. The alterations made, which were very costly, provided moderate refrigerated space and improved cargo capacity, but it was found impossible to adapt the ship to the carriage of more than a very limited number of passengers under uncomfortable conditions. However, the vessel has proved of great value as a stopgap and, assisted occasionally by freighters chartered during the period of the heaviest shipments, has been the means of maintaining the island trade during a difficult period. Her operation has been found to be very expensive on account both of the peculiar nature of the ship and of the general increase in the cost of operating ships during the War. Freight rates have increased to six times the pre-War rates for downward cargo (from New York), and 2½ times pre-War rates for upward freights. Passenger rates rose to about three times pre-War rates.

38. The "Charybdis" is still in operation at the time of writing but negotiations have been concluded with the Furness Withy Co. for the resumption in December of a service similar to the pre-War New York-Bermuda service, and the service of the Royal Mail Steam Packet steamers on the Canada-West Indies route has been restored to its former level.

39. The great importance to the Colony of its tourist trade, which is in normal times its principal source of prosperity, makes the maintenance of a frequent and high-class steamship service between Bermuda and New York a paramount necessity.

2. Inland.

Post Office.

40. The inland postal service is maintained by mail wagons and boats which distribute mails daily to the 18 sub-post offices throughout the island. The deliveries have been reduced to a single delivery daily from rural post offices, as a measure of economy.

Road and Water Communications.

41. The islands are well furnished with driving roads of good surface quality though somewhat narrow and winding in parts. Owing to their peculiar conformation, the total length of road (100 miles approximately) in use is considerably greater than the surface area of the islands would ordinarily demand. The use of motor vehicles is forbidden by law at present. Communication between Hamilton and the Western portions of the Islands (including H.M. Dockyard) is carried on by ferry steamers across the waters of the "Great Sound." These are privately owned and operated.

Telephones.

42. There is an efficient local telephone service (privately owned) with over 800 subscribers.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

43. The resident population, exclusive of the naval and military establishment, has been slowly increasing during the last decade. At the census of 1911 it was estimated at 18,994 (6,691 whites and 12,303 coloured). On the 1st January, 1919, it was estimated at 21,840 composed as follows:—White 7,443 (3,554 male and 3,889 female) and coloured 14,397 (7,004 male and 7,393 female). Of the total increase in population during 1918, viz.: 211, natural increase accounts for 175 and immigration for 36. There are a fair number of immigrants from West Indian Islands, principally St. Kitts, but this accretion of population is counterbalanced by emigration to the United States of America and a certain number returning to the West Indies. The number of immigrants during 1918 was 183, and the number of departures 147.

44. The birth-rate during the year was 27·10 per 1,000, being 21·63 among the white population and 29·93 among the coloured. This is lower than in preceding years but so small a population is subject to so many casual and accidental influences that no inference can safely be drawn from variations occurring in a particular year unless of a very marked character.

The illegitimacy rate was 14·3 per 100 births (2·3 among whites, and 18·6 per cent. among coloured persons).

The death-rate of 14·37 per 1,000 among whites and 24·10 per 1,000 among the coloured population was higher than usual, being affected by an outbreak of Spanish influenza in September, which was responsible for about 125 deaths.

The marriage-rate was 7·09 per 1,000 (7·1 white and 6·3 coloured).

45. The epidemic of influenza in September and October was the principal circumstance affecting public health during the year. Starting at the west end of the island in His Majesty's Dockyard and vicinity, it spread rapidly eastwards but with decreasing virulence. Relief centres were opened at various points, and much valuable assistance was given by the ladies of the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire and other bodies in administering relief and nursing sufferers. The whole body of medical practitioners gave the most devoted service, under conditions which owing to their small numbers

involved a very heavy strain. The total number of cases cannot be exactly given but is believed to have approximated to 5,000 (including cases in the garrison). There has been no recrudescence since the outbreak. The great majority of deaths occurred among the coloured population and were attributable in some cases to failure on the part of the patients to observe proper precautions and in others to enfeebled physical condition, such as pre-existing tuberculous tendencies.

46. It is many years since the Islands have been visited by an epidemic of so severe a character, and the unusually favourable health conditions normally prevailing intensified the impression caused. The Colony is blessed with natural conditions of climate and geographical position which should make it one of the healthiest spots in the world.

Climate.

47. Except for a period of about 3 months during the summer, when the atmosphere is especially humid and conditions somewhat enervating, the climate of Bermuda is remarkably agreeable and mild. Free from extremes either of heat or cold and situated in mid-ocean with no land nearer than 500 miles the islands offer the conditions of air and atmosphere prevailing on a very large ship in temperate latitudes with none of the discomforts attendant on a sea-voyage. Their freedom from serious infections is due largely to these conditions.

The rainfall during 1918 was 64·16 inches, being some 8 inches above the average of the preceding 9 years. Rain fell on 155 days, being most frequent and heaviest in November and April. Mean atmospheric pressure was 29·947 and the mean temperature 70·2° F. The highest temperature recorded was 88·8 on the 14th August and the lowest 48·0° on the 6th February. Mean relative humidity was 88°.

VI.—EDUCATION.

48. The educational organization existing in Bermuda is of a somewhat unusual character and while possessing obvious defects it nevertheless meets satisfactorily special difficulties attending the question of education in this and similar Colonies. Education is compulsory for all children between 7 and 13 years of age, but there are no Government Schools, and parents are required to satisfy the Board of Education that their children are receiving adequate instruction in a school approved by the Board or by private tuition. This method leaves to the parents wide latitude in the choice of the school which their children attend.

49. Schools which are willing to submit to Government inspection and control are given grants from Government funds in aid of teachers' salaries, books and school furniture and other expenses, the grants being assessed in accordance with the number of pupils and the standard attained. These schools are regularly inspected by the Director of Education and are to a large extent under the control of the Board of Education. Pupils whose parents are unable to meet the small fees charged may be paid for by the Board.

The majority of the primary schools are of this character. In 1918 the "Aided Schools," as they are called, numbered 30, with an average total attendance of 1,864 pupils out of 2,576 children on the books. These figures are considerably below those for 1917 both in average attendance and the number of enrolled pupils, but the decrease was the effect of an epidemic of influenza during September and October when all schools were closed. Attendance registers are inspected by the Director of Education and attendance is also supervised by District Educational Officers whose duty it is to bring to notice cases of persistent non-attendance. These measures, however, leave many loopholes for non-attendance in cases where parents are ignorant or indifferent. Of the aided schools, ten are attended by white children and 20 by coloured children.

50. The expenditure on education, excluding departmental salaries was £4,100 in 1918, of which £3,714 was expended on salaries of teachers and assistants.

51. There are four Secondary Schools, which do not receive Government aid: one for boys (white), two for girls (white), and one mixed school (coloured). The last named is of especial value as a training ground for teachers for the aided schools for coloured children. These schools enter pupils for the Cambridge Local Examinations which set the standard aimed at. There are also a number of small unaided primary schools of varying standards.

52. A Bermuda Scholarship of £150 per annum is awarded yearly by the Government to the boy who attains the highest results in the Cambridge Local Examination and who is otherwise best qualified to become a candidate for the Rhodes Scholarship allotted to this Colony. Election to this Scholarship is normally followed by election to the Rhodes Scholarship. The holder of the Scholarship is required to spend two years at a British educational institution in the United Kingdom or Canada approved by the Governor.

53. The general standard of education probably compares favourably with that in most small Colonies but is capable of much improvement, particularly in the sphere of secondary education. Amongst children of primary school age there have been noticed an increasing number of more or less vagrant boys who are difficult to trace and control, except when they appear, as they too frequently do, as offenders before the Police Courts. The increase in juvenile crime in recent years is a most regrettable feature and points insistently to the need for the establishment of an industrial school or reformatory to rescue juvenile offenders from the pernicious influence of the common prisons.

W. B. JACKSON,

Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title-page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year
987	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1917–1918
988	East Africa Protectorate	1916–1917
989	Barbados	1917–1918
990	Sierra Leone	1917
991	Straits Settlements	,,
992	Leeward Islands	1917–1918
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996	Nyasaland	,,
997	Basutoland	,,
998	Gold Coast	1917
999	Weihaiwei	1918
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1002	Somaliland	1917–1918
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1006	Fiji	,,
1007	Ceylon	,,
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1009	Turks and Caicos Islands	1918
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1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917–1918
1014	British Guiana	1918
1015	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1918–1919
1016	Falkland Islands	1918
1017	Basutoland	1918–1919
1018	Trinidad	1918

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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No. 1044.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1919.

(For Report for 1918 see No. 1019.)

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No. 1044.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1919.

NOTE ON HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these Islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the "Legatio Babylonica" of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the Island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship, "The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called after the name of the Admiral's ship, The Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him, "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I. but shortly afterwards The Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "The Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684 a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the islands, was dissolved.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the Government passed to the Crown in 1684 the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I.—GENERAL REVIEW.

1. The first portion of 1919 was a period of waiting and inquiry as to the prospects of a revival of trade, which in Bermuda depended practically entirely upon the possibility of securing a good passenger steamship service with New York. During 1918 and for the greater part of 1919 communication with New York was carried on by the ex-cruiser "Charybdis" which had been lent to the Colony by the Admiralty and converted to mercantile use. This ship was quite unsuitable for passengers and was inadequate for the freight trade. Inquiries as to possible steamship services were without fruit until the middle of the year, when a very satisfactory arrangement was concluded with Furness, Withy & Company, and from that time confidence was restored and preparations for a revival of trade began.

2. In May the Colony welcomed back the balance of the contingents of the Bermuda Volunteer Rifle Corps who had served in France with the Lincoln Regiment. They were a small body, only 22 in number, out of a total of 125 in the original contingent. They had a splendid fighting record with the distinguished Regiment with which they were associated, and their heavy casualty list tells its own tale. They were followed in July by the Bermuda Contingent of the Royal Garrison Artillery (coloured) who had numbered in all about 250. This contingent was received with great enthusiasm, and deservedly so, for they brought back with them a record of good service and hard work, of which the Colony has every reason to be proud. Throughout the

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year arrangements were made to welcome the return of individuals who had either joined other corps originally or who had gone overseas with the Bermuda Contingents and had been transferred to other corps on obtaining commissions, or for other causes. In all it is believed that between 560 and 600 Bermudians served overseas in the War, of whom 379 were with the Bermuda Contingents. The services of these gallant representatives of the Colony and the memory of those who lost their lives are to be commemorated in a Memorial Column to be erected on a site near the Public Buildings of the Colony, facing the harbour. Pensions to disabled men and to the widows and other dependents of the dead are paid by the Colony approximately on the scale adopted in the United Kingdom.

3. The Peace Celebrations on 19th July, 1919 were a feature of the year, and an occasion of great rejoicing, though here as elsewhere it was not possible to recapture the heartfelt enthusiasm of November 11th, 1918. Dinners were given to the men returned from the front, and in the afternoon a regatta and water sports were held, concluding with a torchlight review and gathering in the Victoria Park in Hamilton in the evening.

4. The men returned from the front were, with few exceptions, reabsorbed in civil life without difficulty and without special arrangements. There was in fact no lack of employment, for from the autumn onwards, with preparations for the expected tourist season in progress, the cultivation of land for the winter vegetable crops commencing, building and repairs which had been neglected during the War being everywhere put in hand, the problem was not to find employment but to find labour. The very high wages obtainable in the United States of America which were brought to the doors of the Colony by the visits of American ships, began to attract men from the Colony. This movement has assumed serious proportions and affects all classes of labour, but perhaps most of all domestic servants, who at the time of writing are leaving the Colony in large numbers. Farm labour during the winter season of 1919-20 was also difficult to secure. Under these conditions wages have advanced rapidly, though no more rapidly than the cost of living. The advance in wages in this Colony came later than in Europe and America, and was perhaps even more rapid when it came. It was not accompanied by any form of disturbance, though a strike of dock labourers in December 1919, a most unusual event in this Colony, was evidence of the unusual pressure. It is difficult to say whether the emigration from the Colony is only a temporary condition or whether it may last some years.

5. The very high cost of all commodities in Bermuda during 1919 was, as might be expected, only a reflection of conditions existing elsewhere. These conditions were, however, exaggerated in this Colony by the drop in sterling exchange. As the population depends practically entirely on imported goods, including staple food-stuffs, and the greater part are purchased in America, the rise in the sterling value of the dollar involved an average increase in prices of from 20 to 25 per cent., a condition which still prevails. It is difficult to compare the cost of living in this Colony with that prevailing elsewhere, as the conditions here can scarcely be duplicated: it may be said however,

in general terms, that in labouring and middle-class life it is more expensive than in the United Kingdom, and less so than in the United States of America, at any rate on the eastern sea-board. It is certainly much more expensive than in the West Indian Colonies, though only a careful comparison of prices and standards would make it possible to say by how much.

6. In December the tourist season opened and it was quickly apparent that a good though late "season" was in prospect. The effect on the revenues of the expected revival and consequent preparations and increased importations had already begun to be felt before the end of the year, which closed with a balance in the Treasury of £16,022 19*s*. 8*d*., a much larger sum than had been anticipated.

7. Among other interesting events of the year was the establishment of an aviation company, since incorporated under the name of the Bermuda and West Atlantic Aviation Company, Ltd., for the operation of flying boats and seaplanes for pleasure flights and other purposes. A whaling concession is among the privileges granted. The Company is supported by important British Aviation Companies and its development will be watched with much interest. A flight over the reefs and shallows around the Islands, where the marine colouring is unsurpassed, is an unforgettable experience.

8. The various public improvements which had been interrupted by the War could not be resumed during the year, as it was not until towards the close of 1919 that the outlook was sufficiently assured to enable arrangements for their resumption to be made. The Estimates for 1920, however, provided for the completion of the new General Hospital, which is erected as a memorial to King Edward VII, for the resumption of work on the channels, and for the erection of a central gaol in a country district in lieu of the two Colonial prisons now in use in Hamilton and St. George's respectively. An excellent site for the new gaol had been secured during the year at a cost of £2,000. Further information as to the work in progress and in contemplation in connexion with the steamer channels will be found under the head Communications and Harbours.

9. In September the Honourable Reginald Gray, K.C., who had held the office of Attorney-General for nearly 20 years, resigned from the service of the Colony to devote himself to his private practice at the bar. His unique services to the Colony as legal adviser to the Government and as "leader" in the House of Assembly during many years were recognized by his elevation on the 1st January 1920, to the dignity of Knight Bachelor, an honour to a distinguished Bermudian which was highly appreciated throughout the Colony.

10. During the War the American Navy had maintained at Bermuda a depôt which was largely used by submarine chasers, mine sweepers, and other craft on their trans-Atlantic journeys. The headquarters of this depôt, which was on a small island in Hamilton Harbour was closed on the 1st April 1919, with appropriate ceremonies, and a close and pleasant association brought to a close.

II.—FINANCIAL.

11. The Revenue for the year from all sources totalled £119,091, as compared with £91,645 in 1918, and the expenditure £107,240, as against £90,684 in the previous year. The Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years are shewn in the subjoined table. Under the system of account followed in the Colony all receipts including those from loans, are shewn under the head of Revenue, and all payments under the head of Expenditure. Thus for the year under report both Revenue and Expenditure should be reduced for purposes of comparison by the sum of £10,416 13*s.* 4*d.* borrowed through the public Treasury to meet current expenses for the running of the s.s. "Charybdis" (see under Communications) and immediately paid over to the agents responsible for the operation of this vessel. Apart from this transaction the expenses of operating the "Charybdis" do not appear in the Treasury accounts. Similarly, in other years other transactions, which are elsewhere shewn in separate accounts, appear under the head of Revenue or Expenditure from which they must be separated in order to make a true comparison between the results of the different years. These special items are shewn by footnotes in the following table of Revenue and Expenditure for the preceding five years :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
*1914	£80,504	£89,575
†1915	106,467	97,643
‡1916	107,055	109,652
§1917	100,447	105,867
1918	91,645	90,684

Notes.

*1914. Revenue augmented by issue of £8,000 in currency notes for general purposes.

†1915. A further issue of £10,000 in notes made and advanced to Imperial Treasury Chest Officer—item appears on both sides of account.

‡1916. Transactions involved in paying off Causeway Loan of £5,500 add this amount to both sides of account.

§1917. Further issue of £10,000 to Imperial Treasury Chest as in 1915.

Revenue.

12. The revival of trade after the War and, it must also be added, the increasing prices of goods of many classes, were responsible for a substantial real increase in the revenue apart from special items. As soon as it became known that suitable steamship communication with New York for the coming winter season had been secured—which was settled in July—arrangements began to be made for importations to meet the expected demand from tourists. The general prospect of a revival of trade led also to heavier importations all round with a consequent increase in revenue. The total Customs revenue increased from £69,410 in 1918 to £87,808 for 1919, the principal items worthy of note being

Cigars and Cigarettes, increase ..	£1,052
Rum	2,900
Other Spirits	2,760
Ad Valorem Duties	10,109

Customs duties provide the bulk of the revenue, there being no direct taxation for Colonial Revenue. Under other heads Lighthouse tolls increased from £1,683 to £2,860, and for the first time since the establishment of a Superannuation Fund in 1893 the interest on the fund, £617, was paid into the Treasury to assist in meeting payments for superannuation.

Expenditure.

13. There was a general increase in expenditure under nearly all heads, owing to the resumption of various activities interrupted by the War, though owing to the uncertainty of the outlook it was still necessary to exercise a very rigid economy. To some extent this increase was counterbalanced by the reduction in expenditure directly attributable to war conditions. On the whole it may be said that the increase in expenditure was mainly due to the advanced cost of administration in all departments owing to the higher prices of materials and labour. A bonus on official salaries under £200 per annum was paid in February, 1919, which added some £1,100 to the total. The total additional expenditure thus incurred does not all appear under the head Personal Emoluments. Higher rates to temporary employees and casual or contract labour also served to increase the total expenditure e.g., the largest single increase in expenditure shewn, viz: under Public Works £7,550 was due rather to the rise in wages and cost of materials than to extension of works, which were not fully resumed until after the end of the year. Other increases calling for mention were £2,068 under the head of Public Debt, due principally to the payment of interest on a loan taken up from the Crown Agents for reconstructing the s.s. "Charybdis" (v. under Communications), and £4,764 under "Trade Development Board" for expenses in connexion with a former contract and for subsidy payable on the new contract with Furness Withy & Company for the New York Service (v. also under Communications).—The expenditure for War purposes decreased from £15,063 to £9,314. An annual contribution of £3,450 promised for 15 years to the Imperial Treasury in lieu of a cash payment of £40,000 for war purposes remains to be met, as also the pensions payable to disabled men of the Bermuda Contingents and the relatives of those killed in the War.

Assets and Liabilities.

14. At the end of the year the immediate liabilities of the Colony were returned at £48,382, with assets of £61,956. The largest current liability is in respect to the issue of inconvertible £1 currency notes, totalling £28,000 in all, made on various occasions during the War. Against this was formed the Government Notes Redemption Fund which on December 31st amounted to £33,664. The cash balance in the Treasury was £16,082.

15. Other liabilities were chiefly in connexion with the s.s. "Charybdis." For the purpose of reconstructing this ship £55,000 was borrowed from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, of which £54,000 was paid off by the sale of a Colonial dredger to the Government of Nigeria. The total remaining due to the Crown Agents on the 31st December, including expenses in connexion with the navigation of the dredger to Lagos, was £6,184.

16. There was also a sum of approximately £17,500 to be met in connexion with the operation expenses of the "Charybdis." Arrangements are being made to liquidate these liabilities by a local loan to be raised at 5 per cent.

Public Debt.

17. A loan of £40,000, raised in 1893 for the improvement of the channels leading to Hamilton Harbour, falls to be redeemed in 1924. The nominal value of the Sinking Fund on 31st December was £39,674. There is no other public debt.

III.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

18. The value of imports was £792,683, and of exports £208,708, the highest figures which have ever been recorded. The high prices generally prevailing are, however, largely responsible for the "record" in the case of imports. Prices for Bermuda produce exported to New York were also very high. The figures for the preceding five years were as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1914	565,611	106,661
1915	579,828	101,663
1916	734,799	139,825
1917	674,493	207,724
1918	692,742	139,825

Imports.

19. As soon as good steamship communication for the winter tourist season was assured, orders for goods were placed by importers, but owing to prevailing conditions many orders were not filled before the end of the year, and goods formerly used were often found to be unobtainable. The increase in imports which was to be expected upon the re-opening of the tourist trade had, therefore, scarcely time to become manifest in the import returns before the close of the year, and the high total shewn must be attributed to enhanced prices. Many articles much sold to and for use by tourists, e.g., carriages, clothing, drugs, earthenware, fancy goods, hardware, linen, furniture, and woollen goods were imported in smaller quantities, and in some cases even in smaller total values than in 1913—the last normal year. The same is true of cigars, cigarettes, whisky and wines, spirits except rum, of which increasing quantities have been imported during the years of the War. Coal imports (steam coal) increased from 16,697 tons during 1918 to 27,055 tons during 1919. During December it was necessary to restrict supplies of coal to foreign shipping owing to the shortage of supplies from the United States of America.

Exports.

20. Of the total exports of £208,708, over £200,000 represents the value of the crop of potatoes, onions and other vegetables exported principally to the New York market. Both in quantity and value the shipments of potatoes were the highest recorded. This crop,

which produced in 1911 an export of 39,000 barrels, valued at £32,000, provided in 1919 the equivalent of 91,000 barrels valued for export at £120,291. With the exception of about 2,500 barrels shipped to the British West Indies, the whole export of this article went to the New York market. The export of onions was maintained, and with the provision of more adequate refrigerated space, which had not been available in the early part of 1918, the shipments of "green vegetables" revived to a considerable extent.

There are no other exports of any importance.

Direction of Trade.

21. Owing to the disorganization of supply and the absence of communications, trade with the United Kingdom had not begun to revive during 1919 to any appreciable extent, though there was every desire on the part of importers to obtain as much as they could therefrom. The total imports, however, from the United Kingdom, which in 1913 were valued at £155,000, were returned for 1919 at £59,990. Imports from other British countries totalled £266,000, of which £230,000 came from Canada and £36,000 worth from the British West Indies. Canada holds the market in flour, fish (preserved), cheese, oats, hay, bran, butter, and box material. A considerable quantity of potatoes are also imported from the Dominion. The space available on the Canadian steamers is usually fully booked, and more direct imports could be taken if space were available. The increase in importations from Canada, about 36 per cent. in value over 1918, is encouraging. Imports from the West Indies consist mainly of sugar, rum, and cigars. In this case also it has been difficult to secure the cargo space required.

Practically all other imports, in value approximately £466,000, are from the United States of America.

AGRICULTURE.

22. The chief feature in agricultural development in the last few years has been the improvement both in quality and quantity of the potato crop, which has increased by nearly 30 per cent. since 1915. This has been accomplished by careful selection of seed which is grown in Canada and the United States and inspected in the fields before shipment by improved cultivation, and by a further careful inspection before shipment. When the very limited area of agricultural land available is taken into consideration (about 2,758 acres), the value of the crop produced for export is remarkable. The Bermuda onion maintains its reputation for mildness of flavour, and competes on the whole successfully with its rival from Texas. "Green Vegetables" such as lettuce, parsley, beetroots, celery and the like, are a somewhat varying quantity, but are useful in providing ready money returns to the grower, while the more important crops of potatoes and onions are maturing. Lily bulbs which once formed an important item of export have shrunk to unimportant proportions, and arrowroot, also formerly a well-known product, is very little grown.

23. Bermuda " farms " are small in area (10 to 12 acres being quite a fair size), and are often cultivated by the labour of the owner and his family with such help as he can procure. There have been complaints during the past year of the scarcity of labour for farm-work. Many farms are cultivated by Portuguese settlers from the Azores, who are industrious and successful.

24. It is often remarked upon as curious that this Colony, which exports large quantities of potatoes to New York also imports considerable quantities of the same vegetable for its own consumption. It should be recollected, however, that a large part of the imports consist of seed, which, as stated above, is grown for Bermuda in the United States and Canada, and that Bermuda potatoes are exported during the spring to a northern market where they fetch high prices, while imports are chiefly during summer and autumn, when few potatoes can be produced locally.

Tourist Trade.

25. In July when shipping communication with New York was assured by arrangement with Furness, Withy & Company, preparations began to be made for the revival of this trade, which had been practically extinguished during the War. The hotels were renovated, supplies of goods ordered, and advertisements issued widely as in former times. The results promised to be exceedingly good, and although the full realization of the possibilities of the trade for 1919-20 was deferred by unavoidable delays in preparing one of the large steamers obtained by the Company for this service, the " season " opened with every prospect of success, a promise which was fully borne out by later results. The Company, which has now taken over the New York-Bermuda steamer service, has outlined and placed in hand a most progressive development policy, including the building of a large hotel, bungalows, golf courses, &c., and there is little reason to doubt that the developments in the tourist business will far surpass anything hitherto achieved. The geographical position, climate, and natural charm of these islands make them without rival as a winter resort.

Shipping.

26. One of the important industries of the Colony is the bunkering, supply and repairing of passing ships, to which the town of St. George is largely devoted. This business is subject to fluctuations dependent upon the varying conditions of trade. The results for 1919 were, on the whole, very satisfactory, though not up to the level of the earlier years of the War, when large numbers of ships put in here. The tonnage entered and cleared was as follows, as compared with the preceding 3 years :—

	British.	Total.
1916	973,403	1,630,360
1917	687,340	1,087,980
1918	368,343	732,613
1919	632,212	1,258,188

Next to British tonnage, by far the most frequent callers were American ships, the American tonnage entered and cleared totalling 380,589. The bulk of the sailing ships calling were under the American

flag, though there were several large French auxiliary schooners, one of which was wrecked on the reefs to the north-west of the islands and became a total loss. Coal for St. George's is largely imported in American schooners.

The tonnage using Hamilton totalled 566,285, and that entered and cleared from St. George's 710,062. Hamilton is the regular port of call for the steamers from New York, Canada and the West Indies. Consequently British tonnage largely predominates at Hamilton, while at St. George's during 1919 about threequarters of the tonnage using the port was under foreign flags.

Currency and Banking.

27. The very high rate of exchange on New York was the principal feature of the year, and was the cause of a good deal of anxiety and unsettlement in business circles. Exchange from Bermuda is obtained partly through the sale of Bermuda crops in New York, but chiefly by the purchase of drafts on the Imperial Treasury sold locally, usually at par, by the Treasury Chest Officer to obtain funds for the use of the Naval and Military establishments. There are a large number of British Treasury notes placed in circulation through the Imperial services, and it was not therefore possible to replace these by other currency. The rate for exchange on New York rules about 2 per cent. over the London rate for New York drafts. As a very large part of the purchases of the Colony are made in the United States, the result was an increase in local retail prices of from 20 to 25 per cent., which, added to the already high prices prevailing, involved a very serious burden on all classes of consumers. The absence of direct regular communication with the United Kingdom and the difficulty of getting orders filled in many lines, prevented the transfer of purchases to the United Kingdom which would otherwise have been the result.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Steamship.

28. The withdrawal of the steamer plying between New York and Bermuda during the War was the most serious difficulty with which the Colony was faced, as it involved the total extinction of the tourist trade. Connexion was maintained by the "converted" third class cruiser "Charybdis" which was lent for the purpose by the Admiralty and operated at the expense of the Colonial Government. This vessel served a very useful and necessary purpose in maintaining supplies and providing for the shipment of produce, but she was, of course, nothing more than a stopgap, and as soon as the War was over every effort was made to secure permanent arrangements for the renewal of the New York service on a scale at least equal to pre-war days. The Colony was finally fortunate in concluding a very satisfactory arrangement with Furness, Withy & Company for the operation of one first-class steamer all the year round, sailing weekly in winter and every ten days in summer, fitted for about 300 first-class passengers, and with ample refrigerated space for shipment of produce. The annual subsidy for

this ship is £15,000. She is supplemented during the winter season by a second and larger ship sailing weekly, which the Company have the option of withdrawing during the summer. For this vessel the subsidy is at the rate of £10,000 a year for the period of her annual service on the route. The contract has been concluded for five years and the first sailings were in December, 1919. Both ships are admirably adapted for the trade, with first rate accommodation and fittings and good speed and the service gives every promise of being extremely satisfactory. With an excellent steamer service secured and the hotel and other developments referred to elsewhere in train, the prospects for the development of the tourist business on a scale exceeding anything hitherto contemplated are excellent. Nothing has had a more marked effect in re-establishing confidence and "starting the ball rolling again" in a business sense than the conclusion of these arrangements.

29. As soon as the new service started, the "Charybdis" was handed over again to the Admiralty. Her employment on the commercial service has no doubt justified itself in the circumstances, but it was an expensive experiment and in all cost the Colonial Treasury not less than £80,000. The final disposal of the ship has not yet been determined upon.

Canada—West Indies Route.

30. The fortnightly service between Canada and the West Indies via Bermuda continued throughout the year, the contract which had expired in October being renewed for another year. This service has done most admirable work, especially during the War, in maintaining trade with Canada and developing it as far as the limits of the service allowed. It is now no longer adequate for requirements, and it is greatly to be hoped that a considerably improved service will shortly be arranged for. No single factor plays so important a part in the development of the trade between the Dominion and the West Indies, and it should be recognized that, if this trade is to be developed as it should and undoubtedly could be, the first essential will be the provision of a steamship service of a capacity which will allow for expansion of the trade. The service in fact should be always in advance of the immediate requirements. The moment the latter overtake the capacities of the service, development is checked. Bermuda's contribution to this service lies chiefly in downward freight (from Canada to Bermuda), and in the passenger traffic in both of which directions the Colony's requirements are out of all proportion to its geographical area, and far greater than the number of its resident population would suggest. Very little is exported direct to Canadian ports.

Communication with the United Kingdom.

31. No reliable direct communication with the United Kingdom exists. There are occasional freight ships at somewhat irregular intervals, but the irregularity of sailings and the lack of notice as to when ships are due to sail prevent such sailings being utilized to the full advantage. A passenger service to the United Kingdom calling at Bermuda would be well patronized, though the resources of the island are not sufficient to make it a terminus for such a service. Its advantages as a "junction" for passenger steamship lines do not, however, appear to be sufficiently appreciated, and are well worth

investigation and study. It is on the direct route from Halifax to the Eastern Antilles, and only a very few miles off the direct route from England to Jamaica and beyond. The distance from say, St. Kitts to Plymouth via Bermuda is the same as the distance via Barbados to the same port. These facts in themselves suggest the possibility of utilising Bermuda as a junction for lines serving Jamaica and possibly Central American ports, and the line from Canada to the Eastern Antilles.

2. Inland.

32. Communications within the islands are maintained by boat and by horse-drawn vehicles, the use of motor vehicles being prohibited by law. The peculiar conformation of the islands makes the distances to be traversed greater than would be supposed. Thus, although the area is only 19 square miles, the distance by road from Ireland Island to St. George's is over 23 miles. Communication between Hamilton and Ireland Island (H. M. Dockyard) and Somerset is maintained chiefly by steam ferry, and with St. George's by road. The island is exceptionally well provided with excellent driving roads.

33. Various proposals for the establishment of some form of mechanical transport have been considered from time to time, but no satisfactory solution has been reached. Bicycles are much used for short distances.

3. Telegraph and Telephone.

34. Bermuda is connected by cable with Halifax, and with Jamaica via Turks Island.

35. There is a local telephone service privately owned which is extensively used throughout the Islands.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS—PUBLIC HEALTH: SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

36. The population at the end of 1919 was estimated at 21,869, exclusive of the Naval and Military establishments. The proportion of coloured persons to white is about two to one (7,441 white, 14,428 coloured). In 1911 the population was 18,994, and has been gradually increasing since. The increase for 1919 was, however, the lowest on record, being only 29 persons. This was partly due to the cessation of immigration from the West Indies owing to additional restrictions placed on immigrants, and the insistence upon a money deposit on entry. The number of persons leaving the Colony, especially among the labouring and domestic servant classes, is causing some anxiety. There has always been a comparatively regular and considerable immigration to the United States and elsewhere, but hitherto it has been counterbalanced by the entry of immigrants from the West Indies. The high wages prevailing in the United States of America are the principal attraction, and the bulk of those who leave the Colony do not return.

The population is large for the area and the figures given take no account of the large number of tourists visiting the place, amounting in some years to more than the resident population.

37. The birthrate during 1919 was 24·87 per 1,000, and the deathrate 17·28. Both birthrate and deathrate are considerably higher among the coloured population than among the whites.

38. The infantile death rate was 16·6 per 100 living births, 6·1 among whites, and 20·5 among coloured children. The infant mortality varies considerably from year to year owing to local and accidental causes, but the rate for 1919 was lower than usual. The average for the last ten years has been 18·5 per 100 living births (11·29 white, 21·42 coloured).

39. The Colony unquestionably offers unusually favourable health conditions. There are no extremes of temperature and it is beyond the range of the usual tropical diseases. Malaria is unknown, but there are occasionally outbreaks of a mild type of dengue fever. Mosquitos are prevalent in summer, but as they are regarded more as a nuisance than as a menace to health it is difficult to arouse interest in measures for their eradication. It would, however, add greatly to the attractions of the islands and to the amenities of life if these pests could be eliminated or substantially reduced, and measures to that end are now under consideration. The reduction of the common housefly, which is very numerous in summer, is an equally important object of the proposed measures.

METEOROLOGICAL.

40. The following were the principal figures for 1919 :—

Rainfall, 48·84 ins. Highest month, August 6·92 ins. : Lowest month, July ·84 ins. No. of days on which rain fell, 183.

Highest Temperature		90·2°	Date 20th August
Lowest	,,	46·8°	,, 12th February
Mean	,,	November	69·8°
,,	,,	December	65·7°
,,	,,	January	64·0°
,,	,,	February	59·8°
,,	,,	March	60·3°
,,	,,	April	64·4°
,,	,,	May	70·4°

Mean Relative Humidity 83.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
1010	St. Helena	1918
1011	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1012	Ashanti	,,
1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917–1918
1014	British Guiana	1918
1015	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1918–1919
1016	Basutoland	,,
1017	Falkland Islands	1918
1018	Trinidad	,,
1019	Bermuda	,,
1020	Swaziland	1917–1918
1021	Somaliland	1918–1919
1022	Gibraltar	1918
1023	Grenada	1918–1919
1024	Jamaica	,,
1025	Cyprus	,,
1026	British Honduras	1918
1027	British Solomon Islands	1918–1919
1028	Straits Settlements	1918
1029	Gold Coast	,,
1030	Nigeria	,,
1031	Leeward Islands	1918–1919
1032	Sierra Leone	1918
1033	Bahamas	1918–1919
1034	Gambia	1918
1035	Barbados	1918–1919
1036	Mauritius	1918
1037	St. Vincent	1918–1919
1038	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
1039	St. Helena	1919
1040	Weihaiwei	,,
1041	Nyasaland	1918–1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1077.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1920.

(For Report for 1919 see No. 1044.)

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No. 1077.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920.

NOTE ON HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these Islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known but a map contained in the first edition of the "Legatio Babylonica" of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the Island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship, "The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called after the name of the Admiral's ship, The Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him, "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I. but shortly afterwards The Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "The Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684 a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the islands, was dissolved.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684 the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I. GENERAL REVIEW.

1. The year 1920 was marked by two events of historic importance in the annals of the Colony, viz.: the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales and the celebration of the Tercentenary of the establishment of Representative Institutions. The 1st August, 1620, was the date of the first General Assembly in Bermuda, and it had been originally arranged to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of this occasion on the 1st August, 1920. On learning, however, of His Royal Highness's intention to include Bermuda in his tour the greater part of the celebrations were, with His Royal Highness's ready consent, postponed to coincide with his visit.

2. The actual Tercentenary date, 1st August, was marked by a special Joint Session of all branches of the Legislature held at St. George's in the "Old State House," now the Masonic Hall, which had been the site of the sessions of the early assemblies from 1620 onwards. The session was preceded by a special commemoration service held in St. Peter's Church (built in 1713) from which the members proceeded in procession to the State

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House " at the third ringing of the bell " in accordance with the ancient formula. His Excellency the Governor who presided delivered a congratulatory address, and the following telegram which had been received from Their Majesties the King and Queen was read :—

> " On this three hundredth anniversary of the first meeting of the General Assembly of Bermuda the Queen and I desire to express to you, to the Legislature, and to the inhabitants of the Colony, our hearty congratulations on the tercentenary of the establishment of the representative institutions which they have so long and so worthily maintained. We desire to express to you and to them our sincere wishes for the prosperity of one of the oldest Possessions of the Crown oversea, and our hope for its rapid recovery from the many trials and privations in which the War involved its people. We join with you and them in mourning the loss of the glorious dead whom Bermuda gave to the cause of freedom and of the Empire, and with you we are confident that their sacrifice will bear rich fruit in the years to come. We shall continue to watch the development of the Colony with the greatest interest, and we trust that the ancient ties which unite these islands to the Mother Country will be maintained with the same cordial goodwill that now unites us.
>
> " I retain very happy recollections of the Islands and their people, and it is a special pleasure to the Queen and myself that our dear son will have the opportunity of visiting them in a year so full of memories of the past and of hope for the future.
>
> " We join with you all in committing yourselves and your Islands to the Divine Protection."

After brief replies to His Excellency's address, a loyal address to Their Majesties was moved and passed and ordered to be transmitted by telegraph. The celebration was limited to the formal ceremonies on account of the recent death of Vice-Admiral Sir T. D. Napier, Commander-in-Chief, North America and West Indies, who to the deep regret of the whole community died in Bermuda on the 30th July.

3. In the early Assemblies both the Council and the elected representatives sat together, the practice of holding separate sessions of the Council and Assembly not being introduced till about 1673, when it excited indignant remonstrance from the Bermuda Company under whose government the Colony then was. The Joint Session on 1st August, 1920, was accordingly held to reproduce as nearly as possible the circumstances of the first session in 1620.

4. His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales arrived in the Colony in H.M.S. " Renown " on the 1st October. He transferred at the East End to H.M.S. " Calcutta," flagship of the

8th Cruiser Squadron (Rear Admiral Sir Alan Everett) and proceeded to Hamilton where he landed at 11 a.m., being met by His Excellency the Governor,, Naval and Military officers and the leading officials and residents; a guard of honour was mounted by the 2nd Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment. After receiving an address from the Corporation of Hamilton His Royal Highness drove through the streets of the town to the Parliament House where he received an address from the Legislature to which His Royal Highness replied making special reference to the legislative tercentenary. After this ceremony His Royal Highness laid the foundation stone of the War Memorial in the grounds of the public buildings, the site being surrounded by men of the Bermuda Overseas Contingents and relatives of those who had fallen on active service. He then left for Government House where a large garden party was held in the afternoon. The day concluded with a state dinner at Government House and a " Tercentenary Ball " given by the Colony at the Princess Hotel at which His Royal Highness was present.

5. The following day was devoted to visits to H.M. Dockyard and other places of interest and concluded with a private dance at Government House.

6. On Sunday, 3rd October, His Royal Highness attended a church parade service at Prospect Camp and in the afternoon drove to St. George's where he renamed the Public Gardens and met the Mayor and Corporation and leading residents. A short address was presented by the Corporation. His Royal Highness embarked at 5 p.m. in St. George's and proceeded to H.M.S. " Renown," which sailed the same evening.

7. His Royal Highness's visit called forth a remarkable display of enthusiasm and affection, as indeed was anticipated by all who knew the deep-rooted loyalty towards the Crown which imbues the population of the Colony. It is seldom, however, that such an opportunity occurs of giving expression to this sentiment in which the whole population can join. The decorations of the streets both in Hamilton and St. George's and on the route between over which His Royal Highness drove reached a very high standard and the general effect was admirable.

8. The United States Government sent the U.S. Battleship " Kansas " (Rear Admiral Hughes) to greet His Royal Highness on his arrival in Bermuda and to participate in the Tercentenary festivities, a mark of courtesy which was much appreciated. The Colony was also fortunate in being able to welcome the Speaker of the Assembly of the Bahamas, who attended at the invitation of the Legislature to represent the sister Colony. The Speaker of the Barbados Assembly who was also invited was unfortunately unable to be present.

9. The Tercentenary was further marked by the striking off of two sets of special commemorative stamps, one according to a design ordered by the Executive and the other a later and more symbolical design at the special request of the Assembly. The second design has not yet been actually issued.

10. The year as a whole was exceedingly prosperous; the tourist trade revived, the shipping and coaling trade reached considerable proportions, and the sale of agricultural products in the New York market realised the highest prices ever recorded. The revenue also was the highest on record. Further details will be found under Section II. and III of the report.

11. A very important project was set on foot during the year in the formation of the Bermuda Development Company, allied with Furness, Withy & Company, who hold the majority interest, to take up an area of about 500 acres between Harrington Sound and Castle Harbour for the purpose of establishing a "winter playground" including a large hotel, golf courses, boating, bathing and fishing facilities, &c. Good progress is being made with the work which when completed should add enormously to the attractions of the Islands as a tourist resort. Special legislative facilities were granted to allow of the acquisition of privately-owned lands in this area.

12. Public works were resumed but progress was hindered by a shortage of labour both skilled and unskilled. However, work on the St. George's Channel ("Town Cut") was considerably advanced and the new General Hospital known as the King Edward VII. Memorial Hospital, the building of which had been interrupted by the War, was sufficiently completed to allow of the Hospital being opened in July with the administration block and one wing in operation (32 beds). Another wing is being added which will double the present accommodation.

13. The chief difficulty encountered during the year was the shortage of labour referred to in paragraph 12, which was felt in practically all branches of activity. It was due in part to the increased demand brought about by the revival of trade in all branches and in part to the emigration of considerable numbers, especially artisans and domestic servants, to the United States, where the high wages prevailing proved an irresistible attraction. Further comment on this subject will be found under Sections III. and V. As a result progress was much retarded in certain directions, especially in the building trade and in the carrying on of public works, while its influence was also felt in the difficulty experienced in finding and retaining suitable candidates for various branches of the public service.

14. The Police Force was, however, entirely reorganised during the year under greatly improved conditions of service, 20 recruits being selected from the Metropolitan Police and other sources in England and brought out by the Chief of Police as a nucleus of the reorganised force. The general reorganisation of the public service is under consideration by the Legislature and awaits the report of a Select Committee of the Assembly.

15 The cost of living continued in Bermuda, as elsewhere, to be abnormally high and is further enhanced by the unfavourable rate of exchange on the United States of America and Canada

from which the greater part of our supplies are drawn. As far as can be judged the average cost of living in Bermuda is appreciably higher than in most parts of the United Kingdom, but lower than in the cities of the United States sea-board.

II. FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

16. The total Revenue for the year 1920 was £219,753 and the Expenditure £186,470, the corresponding figures for 1919 being Revenue £119,091 and Expenditure £107,240. Both Revenue and Expenditure figures were swelled by the inclusion of transactions connected with the raising of a local loan of £45,000 to pay off certain war liabilities. Under the local system of account loan transactions are included in the total figures for Revenue and Expenditure.

17. The balance in the Treasury on the 31st December, 1920, was £49,365 as compared with £16,082 at the end of 1919. The balance on 31st December, 1920, included a sum of £18,575 the unspent balance of the loan above referred to, £13,132 of this sum has since been allocated to the payment of certain outstanding liabilities in New York in connection with the operation of the s.s. "Charybdis," a cruiser converted to mercantile use and operated by the Colony between Bermuda and New York up to November, 1919. The balance carried to the services of 1921 was therefore £36,133.

18. The following is a comparative table of Revenue and Expenditure from 1914 onwards:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1914	80,504 ..	89,575
1915	106,467 ..	97,643
1916	107,055 ..	109,652
1917	100,447 ..	105,867
1918	91,645 ..	90,684
1919	119,091 ..	107,240
1920	219,753 ..	186,470

Revenue.

19. Nearly all Heads of Revenue shewed substantial increases due to the revival of trade on the re-establishment of adequate steamship communication with New York. All classes of imports are affected by this, but especially the more expensive articles of

apparel, spirits, wines and tobacco. The total receipts from customs duties during 1920 were £145,411 as compared with £87,808 for 1919. The principal increases worthy of note were :—

	Receipts.	*Increase over 1919.*
	£	£
Cigars and Cigarettes	8,442	2,780
Coal	4,807	1,958
Malt Liquor	5,084	1,140
Rum	10,280	1,852
Spirits other than Rum ..	13,588	7,848
Wine	2,153	987
Fuel Oil	1,445	1,369
Ad Valorem Duties	77,564	32,450
10 per cent. Surtax on all Import Duties	13,199	5,250

The importations of coal totalled 50,118 tons, a considerable increase due to the larger number of ships calling for bunkers.

The large increase in spirits other than rum arose from increased imports to meet demands of the tourist and shipping trade. Stocks were short in 1919 and could not be easily renewed then.

Fuel Oil.—A new fuelling station for ships was opened near St. George's by the West India Oil Company, a branch of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

Ad Valorem Duties.—The increased imports were widely distributed, the largest imports being shewn under clothing, cotton goods, confectionery, canned goods, flour, hardware, and agricultural supplies.

20. Receipts from sources other than Customs, exclusive of loans, totalled £28,658 as compared with £20,767 for 1919, the principal items being Lighthouse Tolls £4,895 (increase £2,860) and Postal revenue £18,053 (increase £8,013). Stamp duties are included under Postal Revenue, and the increase under this head is to a considerable extent attributable to this source, including the special duty of 5s. on all steamship passenger tickets or return tickets issued in the island.

Expenditure.

21. Of the total expenditure £45,642 was paid in personal emoluments and £113,584 (exclusive of expenditures on loan account) under " other charges." The corresponding figures for 1919 were personal emoluments £25,379 and other charges £71,447. The total for personal emoluments, however, included £13,864 paid as bonus on official salaries (including £4,200 approximately, arrears from 1919). Bonus payments for 1919 were shewn under " Other Charges." The increase apart from this was due to the reorganisation of the Police Force and the opening of the new General Hospital.

22. Nearly all heads of expenditure shewed an increase, the largest being education (increase £1,607) due to an increase of the grants in aid to schools and teachers: total expenditure on educational services £6,268; legislature increase, £1,732, due to advance in cost of printing, reporting debates, &c.; police, £6,408, due to expenses of reorganisation and improved conditions of service; and public health, £4,557, due to the opening of the new hospital.

23. The expenses of the Trade Development Board, which is responsible for steamship subsidies and advertising, totalled £20,251 as compared with £6,990 for 1919.

24. Expenditure on public works totalled £41,767, an increase of £19,708 over 1919. This was due to the resumption of dredging works in the channels, the completion of portion of the new hospital and the advance in cost of materials, coal and wages.

25. The only substantial decrease was £3,818 in War Expenditure. The Colony remains liable for an annual contribution to the Imperial Treasury, payable for 15 years from 1914, of £3,450 and pensions of disabled men and the dependents of the fallen. The total for 1920 was £2,046.

26. Expenditure from loan funds was as follows:—

	£
Compensation to Pilots in respect to War Services	5,174
Refund of advance from St. George's Corporation for Dredging Works	3,781
Repairs of "Charybdis" in H.M. Dockyard ..	5,941
Balance of Expenses of sending Dredger to Lagos on Sale to Government of Nigeria	6,344
Purchase of Building for Police Barracks	5,180
Miscellaneous Expenses for "Charybdis"	921
Total (Shillings and Pence excluded)	£27,243

Assets and Liabilities.

27. The liabilities of the Colony, apart from funded debt totalled £38,416, being £28,000 in inconvertible £1 notes issued during the War and a bank advance of £10,416 in connection with the operation of the "Charybdis." The assets totalled £98,156 including an investment fund as surety for the note issue the nominal value of which was £35,623. Assets also include a sum of £13,167 advanced for cost of management of the Government Savings Bank during the last 18 years, which the Bank is not yet in a position to refund.

Public Debt.

28. The public debt is £85,000 viz.: £40,000 in local inscribed stock at 4½ per cent. raised in 1893 for channel improvements; and £45,000 at 5 per cent. raised in 1920 for the liquidation of certain liabilities already referred to incurred during the War. The stock in the 1893 loan is redeemable in 1923; and the sinking fund totals £43,717 (nominal value of stock). Practically all the stock in both loans is held in the Colony.

29. The financial position of the Colony is therefore such that all liabilities including the funded loan raised in 1920 and redeemable in 1943 could be met to-day from existing liquid assets.

III. COMMERCIAL.

30. The total value of the trade of the Colony for 1920 was £1,680,118 or about £678,000 more than in 1919, the highest figure hitherto recorded. The great increase was in the import trade which totalled nearly double that for 1919 as already indicated in the paragraphs dealing with customs receipts. The figures for imports and exports since 1913 are shewn below :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1913	570,575 ..	90,695
1914	565,611 ..	106,661
1915	579,828 ..	101,663
1916	734,799 ..	139,825
1917	674,493 ..	207,724
1918	692,742 ..	139,825
1919	792,683 ..	208,708
1920	1,414,250 ..	265,868*

* Includes £20,000 in specie.

The balance between imports and exports is made up by :—

(*a*) The Tourist Trade.
(*b*) Bunkering and Repairs of Shipping.
(*c*) Expenditure by Imperial Government on Local Forces.

IMPORTS.

31. The large increase is accounted for by the revival of the tourist trade, the resumption of public and other works, and the prevailing high prices. Imports are valued at the port of shipment. An increase in the tourist trade calls as may be imagined for increased imports of nearly every kind ; but especially shews in imports of cotton goods, clothing, confectionery, hardware, wines and spirits, tobacco, fancy goods and articles of luxury generally. The comparatively large number of ships calling for bunkers is shewn in the increase in imports of coal from 27,000 tons in 1919 to 50,000 tons during 1920. In anticipation of a full tourist " season " for 1920-21, the first since 1913-14, imports were heavy during the latter part of the year. During the War the interruption of the tourist trade was compensated for to a certain extent by the large number of ships, both naval and mercantile, calling at Bermuda. The apparent increase in imports during the war period is due, however, rather to increase in values than in quantities. Much smaller quantities of many articles were imported than in pre-war times.

EXPORTS.

32. The total value of exports was £265,868. Of this sum the value of vegetable crops exported was £236,476. The balance includes re-exports, such as spirits, empty containers, &c., valued at approximately £6,300 and £20,000 in specie. The value of crop exports in 1919 was just over £200,000. In 1920 the quantity of potatoes exported was less by over one-third (54,000 barrels as compared with 91,000 barrels) but the value was higher, viz., £145,283 as compared with £120,291. A considerably larger quantity of "green" vegetables carried mostly in the "chill-rooms" was exported, viz.: 260,000 crates valued at £32,700 as against 162,500 crates valued at £22,964 in 1919.

Practically the whole of these crops goes to the United States of America, only small shipments of potatoes and onions being sent to Canada and the West Indies.

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

33. The sources of imports as compared with 1919 are shewn in the following statement:—

	1919.	1920.
	£	£
From United Kingdom ..	59,990	271,708
,, Canada	230,000	338,166
,, Other British Possessions	36,000	59,775
,, Foreign Countries ..	466,000	744,601
	£791,990	£1,414,250

34. The largest items of import from the United Kingdom were clothing (£22,257), cotton goods (£28,347), fancy goods (£23,146), cigarettes (£25,297) and wines and spirits (£46,784). Increased importations were, however, observed of numerous other articles and there is no doubt that if orders can be filled with reasonable promptitude and satisfactory communications assured the market for United Kingdom goods can be considerably developed.

35. The principal imports from Canada were butter, bran, box materials, canned fish, cheese, flour, hay and oats, paper and potatoes (largely for seed). Imports from Canada viâ United States ports appear as of United States origin.

36. Imports from other British possessions are entirely from the British West Indies and consist of sugar, rum and cigars. Imports from foreign countries are practically all from the United States and cover a wide range of articles. The largest items were beef (chilled) £53,372, boots and shoes £37,997, canned goods £12,313, cotton goods £42,894, electrical goods £11,560, fancy goods £25,365, groceries £18,129, hardware £27,604, preserved meats £32,629, coal £97,089, fuel oil £25,012.

37. In June, 1920, the Colony sent representatives to Ottawa to attend the Canada-West Indies Trade Conference. The Agreement concluded was signed by the Bermuda delegates but was not ratified by the Legislature.

AGRICULTURE.

38. In the early part of the year very high prices were realised for many local crops, especially the early potatoes, which realised in some cases record prices as much as $26.00 per barrel (nearly £7 at the then rate of exchange) being paid for a few barrels of Bermuda potatoes. These prices, however, were exceptional and were counterbalanced by the high cost of all materials needed by the grower. There was a heavy decline in prices in the autumn of 1920 with the result that crops grown from seed and with materials bought at the highest period of the price movement are being sold at little profit or in some cases at a loss. A very heavy item was the increase in the price of containers, barrels which in 1914 were sold at 1*s.* 6*d.* each cost 5*s.* 6*d.* in 1920 and crates for fresh vegetables increased from 5½*d.* each to 2*s.*

39. The local agriculturist reckons by "seasons" and not by calendar years. On this basis 1919-20 was an exceptionally good season and 1920-21 gives every sign of being a poor one. The "season" may be said to extend from November to May. The prices realised for local produce depend almost entirely on conditions in the New York market beyond the influence of local growers, and very little on the size of the Bermuda crop.

40. The dearth of labour was much felt by vegetable growers. Unfortunately the period of highest demand in all spheres comes at much the same time, as the vegetable "season" is also the tourist season and the busiest time for shipping.

SHIPPING.

41. The year 1920 was one of the busiest on record in the local "shipping" trade, i.e., the bunkering, supply and repairing of ships. The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is given below :—

	British Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
1916	973,403 ..	1,630,360
1917	687,340 ..	1,087,980
1918	368,343 ..	732,613
1919	632,212 ..	1,258,188
1920	1,019,37[illegible] ..	2,371,064

42. Of foreign tonnage using the port by far the largest proportion was American shipping (748,413 tons). A large number of American vessels put in for coal, oil, or repairs, and much of the coal used is imported in American bottoms. British tonnage largely predominates at Hamilton, the port of call for the regular lines, and foreign tonnage at St. George's, where the great bulk of the repairing and bunkering is done. The steam coal used is almost entirely Pocahontas coal from the United States.

TOURIST TRADE.

43. About 12,000 " tourists " are estimated to have visited the Colony during 1920. Tourist travel to Bermuda did not fully revive, however, till the latter part of 1920, as favourable conditions were only re-established in December, 1919, when the New York–Bermuda service of the Furness Bermuda Line was inaugurated. The " season " runs from November to the end of April or early May and comparisons between one " season " and another could be better made for those periods. The figures returned, however, cover the calendar year and so cover part of two " seasons." Summer travel promises to increase considerably. The outlook for the tourist business is excellent. The steamers provided are fast and admirably equipped and local attractions are being developed. When the effect of the wider advertising recently carried on has had time to be felt this business should develop to the full extent of the facilities available.

44. A most important addition both to the attractions of the Islands and to the accommodation available is involved in a scheme of the Bermuda Development Company to build a large new hotel with attached bungalows in an area near Castle Harbour known as " Tuckers Town " which covers some of the most charming scenery in the islands. This area which is at present sparsely occupied offers facilities for an admirable golf course (now under construction) and for bathing, fishing, boating, riding, &c., under conditions which could scarcely be surpassed. The whole scheme, which was formulated and is being carried out principally by Furness, Withy & Co., has been planned on the most attractive lines, and should provide an admirable winter holiday ground.

CURRENCY AND BANKING.

45. The unfavourable rate for sterling exchange continues to be the principal feature of trading conditions. It not only provides a continued and serious additional element of uncertainty but adds greatly to the apparent cost of all goods not purchased in the United Kingdom or European countries. It also is a frequent cause of misunderstanding and dispute with foreign visitors, who are perplexed by the constant variations in the value of their money. The Government has published notices drawing attention to the fact that legal tender is British currency only and that purchasers may demand that charges be made in this currency unless it has been previously otherwise agreed. One effect which has been perhaps not without advantage to the Government is the fact that the rate of exchange tends to keep any surplus available within the Colony. This probably added to the facility with which the local loan of £45,000 at 5 per cent. was subscribed entirely by residents in the Colony. It is believed that advantage was also taken of the exchange rate in some cases to sell out securities held in America at a premium and re-invest the proceeds in the local stock.

46. No further issue of local notes has been made, but, owing to a threatened shortage of silver coin, notes of 5*s.* and 2*s.* 6*d.* value were prepared and held ready for issue. Supplies of the new British coinage were, however, obtained in time to render this step unnecessary. In addition to British Treasury notes there is a considerable quantity of American paper put in circulation which is naturally eagerly sought for at the present rates of exchange—so much so in fact that it is perhaps a misnomer to describe it as "in circulation." It is used largely for remittances to the United States of America.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS.

STEAMSHIP.

47. The service with New York of the Furness Bermuda Line was admirably carried on and gave general satisfaction. The contract provides for bi-weekly trips during the winter months, December to April, and not less than one in ten days for the remainder. The steamers "Fort Hamilton" (5,530 tons) and "Fort Victoria" (7,784 tons) are well equipped and maintain a speed of 15 to 16 knots during the winter, making the trip usually in under 48 hours from dock to dock. They offer ample refrigerated space and more general cargo space than can be utilised.

48. The steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Line continued to give a fortnightly service of exemplary regularity with Halifax and the West Indies. Imports from Canada by these vessels continue to increase and there is a growing demand for passenger accommodation, which exceeds the supply for a large part of the year. The provisions of the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, 1920, which was signed by the Bermuda delegates but was not ratified by the Legislature provide for an extension of this service affording weekly trips to Bermuda and the larger West Indian Colonies and an improved type of vessel. The proportion of subsidy allotted to Bermuda was £2,000 per annum. At present the line is subsidised by the Canadian Government only. If a service from Jamaica to the United Kingdom which passes by Bermuda could be so arranged as to meet at Bermuda the ships of the projected improved Canada-West Indies service for the transfer of passengers, a considerable development of the passenger trade might result, and an excellent alternative route between the West Indies and the United Kingdom would be afforded. Moreover communication between Jamaica and the other West Indies would be made possible without proceeding to Northern ports to change steamers.

Communication with United Kingdom.

49. Freighters of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company operated by Henry Langridge & Sons, have lately been calling at Bermuda every month or six weeks on their way from United Kingdom ports to Havana. This is a most useful service to local importers and if regularity of sailing can be assured should be increasingly patronised.

50. There is no direct service to the United Kingdom but occasional freighters, some fitted with accommodation for a few passengers, have called. Though Bermuda does not provide sufficient traffic to be the terminus of a direct service, a service calling at Bermuda on its way to England would book a much larger number of passengers than the size of the Colony would indicate. Regularity of sailing, however, is essential.

INLAND.

51. There are over 100 miles of good driving roads in the Colony, the road surface being on the whole excellent though the gradients are severe in some places. The main islands are connected with each other by bridges and in the case of St. George's Island by a causeway. Steam ferry boats are used between Hamilton and the western portions of the Islands. Motor vehicles are not allowed, having been prohibited by law in 1908. The delay incurred in travelling between Hamilton and St. George's is a source of inconvenience to many and several

attempts have been made to repeal the laws prohibiting the use of motors or to provide for a limited service of public buses, but so far without success. It is claimed with a good deal of force by those opposed to their use that the island roads are too narrow and winding for fast traffic and that the surface, while sufficient for horse-drawn vehicles, would soon deteriorate under use by fast motor vehicles. The dust nuisance in so thickly populated an area is also a serious consideration. It is stated moreover on behalf of the tourists who visit the islands in large numbers that the absence of motors is one of their chief attractions.

Telegraph and Telephone.

52. The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West India Company a line to Jamaica viâ Turks Islands. Telegraphic communication with the West Indies has been subject to frequent interruptions. The rate to the United Kingdom is 2*s*. 6*d*. a word.

53. The Naval Wireless Station takes messages for ships at sea and also for Canada and beyond viâ Barrington Passage. It is also used for civil traffic to the West Indies during cable interruption, but Wireless Telegraphy has not proved altogether satisfactory in communicating with the West Indies.

54. There is a local telephone company whose lines extend throughout the islands.

Post Office.

55. There are 19 Post Offices and sub Post Offices throughout the Islands with two deliveries a day of local mails. Ocean mails are delivered as they arrive. The traffic during the tourist season is considerable. The high rate of exchange made it necessary to raise the commission on Money Orders for Canada and the United States of America during 1920 to slightly above the commercial rate. The parcel post is being increasingly used for small importations not only by private importers but by commercial firms as it is frequently cheaper than paying prevailing freight rates. As the postage on parcels is retained by the despatching country under the terms of the agreements governing parcel post to Bermuda the expense of handling the large number received falls somewhat hardly on the local Post Office which despatches only a small number of parcels. The Post Office, as a whole, however, is more than self-supporting.

V. VITAL STATISTICS: PUBLIC HEALTH: GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Vital Statistics.

56. The civil population was estimated at 21,987, a very slight increase over 1919. The proportion of white to coloured persons is 7,509 white to 14,478 coloured. The birth-rate was 26·15 per 1,000 (20·1 among the whites and 29·35 among the coloured population). The death-rate was 17·10 per 1,000, being 14·24 for the white and 18·57 for the coloured population. The infant mortality was 14 per cent. of living births, one third of the deaths occurring during the first month after birth. The number of still births gives a percentage of 6·6 per 100 living births.

57. Illegitimate births numbered 19·4 per cent. of the total (4·3 for whites and 24·7 for coloured population).

58. There were 164 marriages recorded or 7·45 per 1,000. The marriage rate was practically the same among both white and coloured population. The average age at marriage was for bachelors 27, and for spinsters 23.

Public Health—Climate.

59. The general conditions are very good and with a little improvement in certain directions could be made almost beyond fault. There are no tropical diseases other than an occasional mild type of a fever diagnosed as dengue. This, however, is neither frequent nor widespread. Malaria is unknown. A certain amount of tuberculosis (34 deaths in 1920) is found, which is often contracted by the coloured inhabitants who leave the islands to work in northern climates. Having contracted it they return to the Colony, where it develops and sometimes is conveyed to other members of the family. During the summer months there is a good deal of enteritis among children which can, however, be avoided by care in keeping food, milk, &c., free from flies and perfectly fresh. A mild type of typhoid also occurs sporadically in the summer months but is not common and seldom spreads. Each house has its own rain-water cisterns, the only water supply, so that infection is rarely spread through infection of water supply. With ordinary care and cleanliness these infections can be and are avoided by the vast majority. Taken all round the climate and conditions make Bermuda one of the healthiest spots in the Empire.

60. Public Health conditions are receiving increasing care from the Government, and an improved system of inspection and control was introduced during the year under report.

61. The very agreeable character of the climate during the greater part of the year no doubt is of great value in the preservation of health. There are no extremes of heat or cold, and even during the summer months of July, August and September the atmosphere though at times enervating and excessively humid is not really trying to those who get sufficient out-door exercise. Typical meteorological data for 1920 were :—

Mean Temperature:	
January	62·5°
April	71·4°
July	82·8°
November	76·3°
Highest Temperature	88·0°F. (10th August).
Lowest Temperature	50·0°F. (28th February).
Mean Relative Humidity ..	76 per cent.
No. of Days Rain	163
Total Rainfall	52·52 ins.
Average Rainfall, 10 years ..	54·45 ins.

General Conditions.

62. The high cost of living continues here as elsewhere to be the most serious factor in the general life of the Colony. Bermuda has never in recent times been a cheap place, and it is now decidedly an expensive one. It is estimated that the cost of living in the latter part of 1920 for working class families was about 180 per cent. above pre-war level. The price of commodities is much affected by the unfavourable rate for sterling exchange as nearly all food supplies are imported from the United States of America and Canada. Wages have advanced considerably but not on the whole as much as living costs and in many classes there has been a lowering of the standard of living. It is still, however, good compared with other places of a similar character. Wages for artisans run from about 12*s.* to 16*s.* a day ; with higher rates for specially skilled men.

63. There has been a shortage of housing accommodation as building was almost at a standstill during the latter part of the War, and is being only gradually resumed owing to the high costs of materials and shortage of labour. There has been a considerable demand for houses and cottages by visitors during the winter season which has made further inroads on the available accommodation and resulted in a sharp rise in rents especially among the better-class houses. The revival of the tourist trade and the demand for residences has also brought about a rise in the value of land in the central portion of the islands. It seems certain that the development of a tourist colony at Tuckers Town, referred to in Part III.—Tourist Trade—paragraph 44, will produce a similar effect in that district.

64. The revival of trade and resumption of public and other works revealed a marked shortage of labour in all directions. This is enhanced by the emigration of considerable numbers of the labouring class to the United States attracted by the

prevailing high wages. Between 850 and 900 passports were issued to labourers, artisans, and domestic servants leaving the Colony. A proportion of these return, and many more finding conditions in a northern climate not to their liking would probably do so if they had the means. The withdrawal of this number of persons from labour in so small a community soon makes itself felt and has been a genuine obstacle to the progress of many works. The shortage among domestic servants has been especially marked. The "seasonal" character of many employments in connection with the tourist trade is also an unsettling factor.

65. There is a good deal of juvenile crime in the Colony and unfortunately it has not yet been possible to provide a reformatory or industrial school, so that magistrates dealing with such cases are placed in the dilemma of awarding ineffective penalties or sending juvenile offenders to the common prisons; a most objectionable alternative. The prevalence of juvenile crime is in many cases due to the indifference or neglect of parents or guardians. Better educational facilities might improve matters, but it is very difficult to ensure the attendance of small vagrants whose natural guardians are indifferent to or even ignorant of their whereabouts and means of livelihood.

66. Education is compulsory up to the age of thirteen, but there are no Government schools, the system being carried out by subsidising private schools which reach the required standard. Parents therefore are at liberty to choose which school their children attend. School fees for indigent children are paid by the Government. The system has certain advantages but tends to produce too large a number of small schools, which increases the difficulty of inspection and of enforcing attendance. There were 30 schools in 1919 receiving Government grants with a total of 2,500 children on the rolls.

67. The social condition of the coloured population is greatly superior to the average in most colonies of a similar character, as will be readily apparent to any observer who notes their neat, substantial dwellings and general orderly behaviour. There are very few paupers. The poor laws are administered by the Parish Vestries who maintain paupers by outdoor relief and in the poor-houses. A proposal is under consideration to establish a central poor-house for seven of the nine parishes.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1041	Nyasaland	1918–1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	,,
1044	Bermuda	,,
1045	Basutoland	1919–1920
1046	Cyprus	,,
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	,,
1049	Ceylon	,,
1050	Gibraltar	1919–1920
1051	Somaliland	,,
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	,,
1054	Uganda	1918–1919
1055	Malta	1919–1920
1056	Swaziland	,,
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919–1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	,,
1061	Seychelles	,,
1062	Mauritius	,,
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	,,
1066	Gold Coast	,,
1067	Jamaica	1919–1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1070	British Honduras	,,
1071	Hong Kong	,,
1072	Barbados	1919–1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918–1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919–1920
1075	Nyasaland	1919–1920
1076	Falkland Islands	1919

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1132

BERMUDA

REPORT FOR 1921

(For Report for 1920 see No. 1077.)

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No. 1132.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921.

NOTE ON HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these Islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the "Legatio Babylonica" of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the Island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship, "The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called after the name of the Admiral's ship, The Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him, "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards The Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "The Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the islands, was dissolved.

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GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and two unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I.—GENERAL REVIEW.

1. During the year 1921 the improved conditions of trade, to which allusion was made in the report for 1920, were generally maintained, and though the total revenue for the year was slightly lower than that of the previous year, the financial situation, as will appear from the financial and commercial sections of this Report, may be regarded as satisfactory.

2. Considerable progress was made by the Bermuda Development Company in connexion with their work at Tucker's Town, and despite the difficulties due to the shortage of labour, the new golf course is in a fair way towards completion, and hopes are entertained of throwing at least nine holes open to the public early in 1922.

3. Another golf course was constructed by private enterprise at Riddle's Bay, and the links and club-house will be thrown open to the public in the new year.

4. The general shortage of labour seriously handicapped the progress of all construction work both public and private alike. In this respect the Department of Public Works suffered, especially owing to the difficulty of competing with the high rates offered by the private employer. The labour shortage was not, however,

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confined to skilled labour, and considerable difficulty was experienced during November and December in securing the necessary dock-labour for the expeditious handling of cargoes. Towards the end of the year the situation became so acute that an Immigrant Labour Board was appointed for the purpose of encouraging the immigration of labourers into the Colony.

5. The Police Force, which was entirely reorganised during 1920, attained a very high level of efficiency during the year, and the results obtained have demonstrated the wisdom of improving the conditions of service.

6. The concluding months of the year were remarkable for the important character of much of the legislation that was enacted. As a result of the report of the Select Committee of the Assembly which was appointed to consider the general reorganisation of the public service, a series of Bills was introduced embracing all branches of the Civil Service. The general result of these measures, which came into force with effect from 1st January, 1922, is to substitute fixed consolidated rates of salary for the former system of payment partly by salary partly by fees, and so far as possible to reduce the number of part-time offices and replace them by a smaller number of whole-time posts. The salaries fixed were, generally speaking, based on the average remuneration (*i.e.*, salary and fees) previously drawn by the officer plus the War bonus granted temporarily on account of the increased cost of living.

7. The cost of living in Bermuda continued to be abnormally high, and though some slight improvement was shown towards the end of the year, in some measure due to the downward tendency of exchange on the United States of America and Canada, the general situation has improved but little during the year under review. Despite high prices a general advance in prosperity has been maintained, and the year was marked by the initiation of a number of private ventures of a commercial nature, and the number of private Bills which were introduced and passed was greatly in excess of those introduced in any previous session of recent years.

8. The decennial census was held this year in April. A more detailed account will be found under the heading "Vital Statistics." The total civil population was 20,127, as against 18,994 in 1911, showing an increase of 1,133 as compared with an increase of 1,459 between 1901 and 1911.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

9. The total Revenue for the year 1921 was £201,382, and the Expenditure £237,492; the corresponding figures for 1920 being Revenue £219,753, and Expenditure £186,470. The large

increase in expenditure was due in part to the investment of £25,000, to which further reference is made below. This transaction is not specially shown, but appears on the expenditure side of the account under "Miscellaneous." There were also increases under Public Works and all the other main heads of service.

10. The balance in the Treasury on 31st December, 1921, was £13,254, as compared with £36,133, the actual balance carried forward for the services of 1921 after deducting £13,132 for the payment of certain liabilities incurred over the s.s. "Charybdis" from the balance of £49,365 on 31st December, 1920.

11. The following is a comparative table of Revenue and Expenditure from 1914 onwards:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1914	80,504 ...	89,575
1915	106,467 ...	97,643
1916	107,055 ...	109,652
1917	100,447 ...	105,867
1918	91,645 ...	90,684
1919	119,091 ...	107,240
1920	219,753 ...	186,470
1921	201,382 ...	237,492

Revenue.

12. The Revenue for 1921 showed on paper a decrease of £18,371, compared with the corresponding figure for 1920. This apparent decrease is due to the fact that the Revenue figures for 1920 were artificially inflated by the inclusion of a sum of £45,684—a local loan raised to pay off certain War liabilities—which under the local system of accounting was included in the total Revenue figures for 1920. If this sum be excluded, the figures show a net increase of £27,313 over the Revenue returns for 1920. The largest falling-off of revenue under any one head is £2,037 under Customs 10 per cent. *ad valorem*. This decrease is to be accounted for by the slight fall in prices during the year of *ad valorem* goods with the resultant decrease to the duty levied upon them.

13. The total receipts from Customs Duties during 1921 were £164,269, as compared with £145,411 during 1920, showing a total increase of £18,858.

The principal increases worthy of note were:—

	Receipts.	*Increase over* 1920.
	£	£
10 per cent. Surtax on all import duties	14,876 ...	1,677
Fuel-oil	3,191 ...	1,745
Rum	12,732 ...	2,451
Spirits	30,131 ...	16,543

Owing to a decrease in the importation of coal, the Customs receipts under this head show a decrease of £1,503, but against this must be set off the increase under "Fuel-oil," due to the West India Oil Company's installation and the increasing number of ships consuming oil fuel.

The increase in revenue obtained from rum and spirits arose from larger imports required to meet demands of the growing tourist and shipping trade, and also from the withdrawal of abnormally large quantities of liquor from bond in the month of December with a view to avoiding the increased rates of Customs Duty prescribed by the Customs Tariff Act, 1921.

14. Receipts from sources other than Customs, exclusive of loans, totalled £37,112, as compared with £28,658 for 1920, the principal items being Postal Revenue £23,685, and Reimbursements to Government £6,544, an increase of £2,895 under general miscellaneous receipts.

Expenditure.

15. Of the total expenditure, £48,208 was paid in personal emoluments, and £189,284 under "other charges." The corresponding figures for 1920 were personal emoluments £45,642, and other charges £113,584 (exclusive of expenditure on loan account). The total for personal emoluments included bonuses on official salaries pending the reorganisation of the Public Service, which takes effect from 1st January, 1922.

16. Nearly all heads of expenditure showed an increase, the largest being £10,715, under the head "Miscellaneous." Of the total expenditure of £58,665 under this head, £25,000 was invested, £15,000 to create a sinking fund for the 1920 loan of £45,000, and £10,000 to create a reserve fund for extraordinary expenditure on public works, so that the normal expenditure under this head actually showed a decrease.

17. A new head of expenditure was created for services connected with the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital, and a sum of £7,764 provided. The head, "Public Health," to which this service was charged, previously showed a reduction of £2,674 accordingly.

18. Education showed an increase of £1,964, due to an increase in the grants made to schools and teachers; Agriculture £2,352, owing to expenditure incurred on improvement of live-stock, and expenses in connexion with the inspection of produce; Police, an increase of £3,973, due to increase of personnel and salaries.

19. The Board of Trade showed an increase of £1,844 on account of increased subsidies to ferry services, and the Trade Development Board an increase of £8,753 due to increased steamer subsidies and an extensive campaign of advertisement.

20. Expenditure on public works totalled £46,609, an increase of £4,842 over 1920, chiefly due to work on the hospital and the continuance of dredging operations.

Assets and Liabilities.

21. The liabilities of the Colony, apart from funded debt, totalled £28,000 on account of inconvertible £1 notes issued during the War. The assets totalled £98,122, including an investment fund as surety for the note issue, the nominal value of which was £37,366. Under assets has also been included a sum of £5,000 advanced to and held by the Crown Agents to be utilised, as required, in connexion with the Colony's current account for the purchase of stores, etc., made through the Crown Agents. Assets also include a sum of £15,238, being the balance of advances made to the Savings Bank which the Bank is not yet in a position to refund.

22. The Public Debt is £85,000, viz.: (1) £40,000 in local inscribed stock at 4½ per cent. raised in 1893 for channel improvements, redeemable in 1923; the Sinking Fund totals £45,851 (nominal value of stock): (2) £45,000 raised in 1920 for the liquidation of certain liabilities incurred during the War, redeemable in 1950. The nominal value of the stock representing investments in the Sinking Fund of £1,500 was £16,176 on 31st December, 1921. Practically all the stock in both loans is held in the Colony.

III.—COMMERCIAL.

23. The total value of the trade of the Colony for 1921 was £1,564,866, as against £1,680,118 for 1920, a falling-off of £115,252. Imports showed a falling-off of £74,010, and exports £41,242, compared with the corresponding figures for 1920. The figures for imports and exports since 1913 are shown below:—

	Imports. £	*Exports.* £
1913	570,575	90,695
1914	565,611	106,661
1915	579,828	101,663
1916	734,799	139,825
1917	674,493	207,724
1918	692,742	139,825
1919	792,683	208,708
1920	1,414,250	265,868*
1921	1,340,240	224,626*

* Includes £20,000 in specie.

The balance between imports and exports is made up by:—

(*a*) The Tourist Trade.

(*b*) Bunkering and Repairs of Shipping.

(*c*) Expenditure by Imperial Government on Local Forces.

Imports.

24. Imports showed a falling-off of £74,010. The decrease is to be accounted for by the fall in the prices of goods paying *ad valorem* duty. This was particularly marked in many of the staple articles of food imported in large quantities for the use of the tourist population. Thus, in the case of frozen meat (both beef and mutton), the actual quantity imported was in excess of last year's figures, but the value of the imports under each head showed a decrease.

25. This is further illustrated by the tonnage figures under the head of "Shipping." The volume of trade showed a marked increase despite the falling-off in the value of the import and export trade. The imports of coal showed a considerable decrease, which was compensated for, however, by the increased imports of Fuel-oil, £45,547, as against £25,012 in 1920.

Exports.

26. The total value of exports w £224,626. Of this sum the value of vegetable crops exported was £133,711, a decrease of £102,765. The balance includes re-exports, such as spirits (whiskey £55,200), empty containers, etc., and £20,000 in specie. Here again the decrease is largely to be accounted for by a fall in the value, and not in the quantity, of exports. Thus, in 1921, the quantity of potatoes exported was greater (58,182 barrels, as compared with 54,027), but the value was less, £92,227, as against £145,283.

The quantity of green vegetables exported was slightly in excess of the figures for last year, 263,600 crates, as against 260,000, of which 263,037 were exported to the United States of America, the balance to Canada (450), and the British West Indies (114). The value of these exports was £32,819, as against £32,700 in 1920.

The shipments of onions were valued at £8,665, as compared with £58,427 in 1920, a decrease of £49,762. This was due to the large falling-off of shipments to the United States of America, only 22,456 crates being exported as compared with 81,357 in 1920.

Direction of Trade.

27. The sources of imports as compared with 1920 are shown in the following statement:—

	1920. £	1921. £
From United Kingdom ...	271,708	351,289
,, Canada	338,166	221,152
,, Other British Possessions	59,775	18,337
,, Foreign Countries ...	744,601	749,462
	£1,414,250	£1,340,240

The falling-off in the total value of imports is explained by the considerable decrease in the value of imports from Canada and other British Possessions.

28. The largest items of import from the United Kingdom were clothing (£54,767), cotton goods (£21,755), fancy goods (£39,958), cigarettes (£11,733), and wines and spirits (£56,095).

29. The principal imports from Canada were butter, bran, box materials, canned fish, cheese, flour, hay and oats, paper and potatoes (largely for seed). Imports from Canada *viâ* United States ports appear as of United States origin. The value of flour imported from Canada was £29,726, as compared with £63,348 in 1920, while the value of the flour imported from the United States of America was double that of last year. Canadian bran showed a decrease of £13,417, for a similar reason. The value of Canadian butter imported was less by £1,777, canned goods by £5,930, to mention some of the more important decreases. These figures are no doubt largely to be explained by the fact that they refer to articles of food required mainly for the tourist population resident in hotels, the more important of which are under American management and obtain their supplies direct from New York.

30. Imports from other British Possessions are entirely from the British West Indies, and consist of sugar, rum and cigars. The decrease of £41,438, compared with the figures for 1920, was chiefly due to the falling-off of importations of sugar from the West Indies. The value of sugar imported was £1,336, as compared with £36,975 in 1920. The importations of sugar from the United States of America showed a great increase, £17,296, as compared with £8,245 in 1920. The total quantity of sugar imported from all sources was 861 tons, as compared with 1,031 tons in 1920, but the actual value was £18,827, as compared with £5,116, an increase of £13,711.

The value of rum imported from the West Indies also dropped from £9,889 in 1920 to £4,951 in 1921.

31. Imports from foreign countries are practically all from the United States of America, and cover a wide range of articles. The largest items were beef (chilled) £47,853, boots and shoes £23,294, canned goods £15,835, cotton goods £43,647, electrical goods £20,023, fancy goods £21,022, groceries £19,872, hardware £33,809, smoked meats £35,252, coal £40,086, fuel-oil £45,547.

Agriculture.

32. The forecast given in last year's report as to the likelihood of the season 1920–21 proving a poor one unfortunately has proved correct, and the year was characterized by a general fall in prices both in the American and Canadian markets, green vegetables alone maintaining their last year's figures.

33. The actual quantity of potatoes exported was in excess of the corresponding figure for last year, but their value was less by £53,056.

34. The worst slump in market prices prevailed in the case of onions, with the result that there was a very heavy falling-off in shipments all round. Only £8,665 worth was shipped this year, a decrease of £49,762. Shipments to the United States of America suffered most, 22,456 crates being exported, as compared with 81,357 in 1920.

35. The shortage of labour was serious, and many farmers are talking of letting some of their land go out of cultivation in consequence.

Shipping.

36. The year 1921 was one of the busiest on record in the local " shipping " trade, *i.e.*, the bunkering, supply and repairing of ships. The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is given below:—

	British. Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
1917	687,340	... 1,087,980
1918	368,343	... 732,613
1919	632,212	... 1,258,188
1920	1,019,373	... 2,371,064
1921	1,210,649	... 2,387,797

37. Of foreign tonnage using the port, by far the largest proportion was American shipping (858,891 tons). A large number of American vessels put in for coal, oil, or repairs, and much of the coal used is imported in American bottoms. British tonnage largely predominates at Hamilton, the port of call for the regular lines, and foreign tonnage at St. George's, where the great bulk of the repairing and bunkering is done. The steam-coal used is almost entirely Pocahontas coal from the United States.

Tourist Trade.

38. About 17,000 " tourists " are estimated to have visited the Colony during 1921, an increase of about 5,000 over the figures for 1920. These figures really cover part of two " seasons," as the " season " runs from November in one calendar year to the end of April or early May in the next. Summer travel was on the increase, and there is no doubt that it will increase to a much larger extent in the near future. The first step is to procure a more frequent steamship service during the summer months, and this question is already engaging the attention of the Trade Development Board.

39. The very considerable increase in the volume of the tourist trade has demonstrated the wisdom of the energetic policy of publicity and advertisement adopted by the Trade Development Board. A new departure this year was the allocation of a sum

of £2,500 for the local entertainment of visitors. Band concerts were arranged, sporting and athletic meetings organised, and an open tennis tournament inaugurated, in which some of the leading players in the United States of America took part.

40. Another new departure was the inauguration of a local Publicity Bureau, from which weekly letters were circulated to 100 or 130 newspapers.

41. Two new golf-courses are in course of construction, one at Riddle's Bay, the other at "Tucker's Town." The latter forms part of a large scheme, formulated and principally carried out by Furness, Withy & Co., for the development of a large area in beautiful surroundings near Castle Harbour.

Currency and Banking.

42. The rate for sterling exchange showed a slight improvement towards the end of the year, but, generally speaking, the rate continued to be unfavourable. Its effect on trading conditions is not only to provide a continued and serious additional element of uncertainty, but also to add considerably to the apparent cost of all goods not purchased in the United Kingdom or European countries. It also is a frequent cause of misunderstanding and dispute with foreign visitors, who are perplexed by the constant variations in the value of their money. The Government has published notices drawing attention to the fact that legal tender is British currency only, and that purchasers may demand that charges be made in this currency unless it has been previously otherwise agreed. One effect, which has, perhaps, been not without advantage to the Government, is the fact that the rate of exchange tends to keep any surplus available within the Colony. It is also generally stated that the banks, which are in a very sound financial position, have made considerable profits through exchange transactions.

43. No further issue of local notes has been made, though a number of notes for 5*s*. and 2*s*. 6*d*., which had been prepared to meet a threatened shortage of silver coin in 1920, are still held in reserve.

44. In addition to British Treasury notes, there is a considerable quantity of American paper in circulation, which is naturally eagerly sought for at the present rates of exchange, so much so that it can hardly be said to be "in circulation" at all. It is largely used for remittances to the United States of America.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Steamship.

45. The service with New York of the Furness Bermuda Line was admirably carried on and gave general satisfaction. The contract provides for bi-weekly trips during the winter months, December to April, and not less than one in ten days for the

remainder. The steamers "Fort Hamilton" (5,530 tons) and "Fort Victoria" (7,784 tons) are well equipped, and maintain a speed of 15 to 16 knots during the winter, making the trip usually in under 48 hours from dock to dock. They offer ample refrigerated space, and more general cargo space than can be utilized.

46. The steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Line continued to give a fortnightly service of exemplary regularity with Halifax and the West Indies. Imports from Canada by these vessels continue to increase, and there is a growing demand for passenger accommodation, which exceeds the supply for a large part of the year. The provisions of the Canada–West Indies Trade Agreement, 1920, which was signed by the Bermuda delegates but was not ratified by the Legislature, provide for an extension of this service affording weekly trips to Bermuda and the larger West Indian Colonies, and an improved type of vessel. The proportion of subsidy allotted to Bermuda was £2,000 per annum. At present the line is subsidized by the Canadian Government only. If a service from Jamaica to the United Kingdom which passes by Bermuda could be so arranged as to meet at Bermuda the ships of the projected improved Canada–West Indies service for the transfer of passengers, a considerable development of the passenger trade might result, and an excellent alternative route between the West Indies and the United Kingdom would be afforded. Moreover, communication between Jamaica and the other West Indies would be made possible without proceeding to northern ports to change steamers.

Communication with United Kingdom.

47. Freighters of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, operated by Henry Langridge & Sons, have lately been calling at Bermuda every month or six weeks on their way from United Kingdom ports to Havana. This is a most useful service to local importers, and, if regularity of sailing can be assured, should be increasingly patronized.

48. There is no direct service to the United Kingdom, but occasional freighters, some fitted with accommodation for a few passengers, have called. Though Bermuda does not provide sufficient traffic to be the terminus of a direct service, a service calling at Bermuda on its way to England would book a much larger number of passengers than the size of the Colony would indicate. Regularity of sailing, however, is essential.

Inland.

49. There are over 100 miles of good driving roads in the Colony, the road surface being on the whole excellent, though the gradients are severe in some places. The main islands are connected with each other by bridges, and in the case of

St. George's Island by a causeway. Steam ferry-boats are used between Hamilton and the western portions of the Islands. Motor vehicles are not allowed, having been prohibited by law in 1908. The delay incurred in travelling between Hamilton and St. George's is a source of inconvenience to many, and several attempts have been made to repeal the laws prohibiting the use of motors or to provide for a limited service of public omnibuses, but so far without success. It is claimed with a good deal of force by those opposed to their use that the island roads are too narrow and winding for fast traffic, and that the surface, while sufficient for horse-drawn vehicles, would soon deteriorate under use by fast motor vehicles. The dust nuisance in so thickly populated an area is also a serious consideration. It is stated, moreover, on behalf of the tourists who visit the islands in large numbers that the absence of motors is one of their chief attractions.

Telegraph and Telephone.

50. The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West India Company a line to Jamaica *viâ* Turks Islands. Telegraphic communication with the West Indies has been subject to frequent interruptions. The rate to the United Kingdom is 2*s*. 6*d*. a word.

51. The Naval Wireless Station takes messages for ships at sea, and also for Canada and beyond viâ Barrington Passage. It is also used for civil traffic to the West Indies during cable interruption, but wireless telegraphy has not proved altogether satisfactory in communicating with the West Indies.

52. There is a local telephone company whose lines extend throughout the Islands.

Post Office.

53. There are nineteen post offices and sub-post offices throughout the Islands, with two deliveries a day of local mails. Mails to and from Hamilton and Ireland Island are now provided for by contract made by the Board of Trade and not by the Postal Department as formerly. The amount of business transacted by all departments of the Post Office in 1921 was considerably in excess of that of former years, and furnished striking testimony to the marked increase both in the tourist and general trade of the Colony which prevailed.

The total Revenue for the year was ...	£24,262 11 8
The total Expenditure for the year was	9,164 2 10
Showing an excess of Receipts over Expenditure of	£15,098 8 10

54. The revenue for the year showed an increase of £5,761 4*s*. 5*d*. in comparison with 1920; expenditure an increase of £647 17*s*. 3*d*. The financial results for the year were therefore most satisfactory, the amount of the excess of receipts over expenditure being £5,113 7*s*. 2*d*. more than in the previous year. The above increase was due principally to the sale of stamps, which amounted to £6,125 15*s*. 8*d*. in excess of the figures for 1920. This increase was largely realized from the sale of 5*s*. stamps required for the Stamp Tax now placed on all passenger tickets. This tax has now been raised to 10*s*., and further increases may therefore be looked for in 1922.

55. The work in the Parcels Post Branch was also steadily on the increase; the number of parcels received exceeded the number received in the year 1920 by 9,028, and the number despatched by 1,800. The greatest increases were in the traffic with the United States, parcels received showing an increase of 6,797, and parcels despatched an increase of 1,111 over the figures for last year. In view of the great excess of parcels received over those despatched, and the consequent labour and expense involved in dealing with them, negotiations are proceeding with the United States Postmaster-General with a view to the ratification of an agreement whereby one gold franc should be paid in respect of each parcel received from the United States in excess of those despatched to that country.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS: PUBLIC HEALTH: GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Vital Statistics.

56. The total population, according to the census held in April, 1921, was 22,505, made up as follows:—

(1) Permanent civil population	20,127
(2) Hotel floating do.	842
(3) Naval Establishment	541
(4) Military do.	995
Grand Total	22,505

These figures show a slight increase over the figure of 21,987 estimated as the total civil population for 1920, but a decrease if the numbers shown under heads (2), (3), and (4) be excluded.

57. The corresponding figures for the census of 1911 were:—

(1) Permanent Civil Population	18,994
(2) Hotel floating do.	2,163
(3) Naval Establishment	789
(4) Military ,, ...	1,893
Grand Total	23,839

This decrease is accounted for by the reduction in the naval and military establishments, and the fact that in 1920 the tourist trade was only just reviving and had not yet assumed pre-war dimensions.

58. Taking Head (1), Permanent Civil Population, as a basis of comparison, the figures show an increase of 1,333 during the ten years.

59. For 1911 the white population numbered 6,691, the coloured 12,303; for 1921 the white population numbered 7,006, the coloured 13,121.

60. The birth-rate was 31·2 per 1,000 (25·7 among the white and 34·2 among the coloured population). The death-rate was 18·37 per 1,000, being 15·55 for the white and 19·46 for the coloured population. The infant mortality was 13·4 per cent. of living-births, one-third of the deaths occurring during the first months after birth. The number of still-births gives a percentage of 6·6 per 100 living-births.

61. Illegitimate births numbered 14·6 per cent. of the total (7·1 for white and 13·5 for coloured population).

62. There were 160 marriages recorded, or 7·94 per 1,000. The marriage-rate was practically the same among both white and coloured population. The average age at marriage was for bachelors 28, and for spinsters 22·5.

Public Health.—Climate.

63. The Public Health Act, 1920, was put into force on 1st March, 1921, when Dr. Eugene Walker assumed duties as Medical Officer of Health. This Act, taken in conjunction with The Pest Destruction Act, 1921, which came into force on 15th June, 1921, sets up all the machinery necessary for the more scientific and efficient handling of the many sanitary and other cognate problems connected with the preservation of the public health. The general health of the community was excellent, and the activities of the Medical Officer of Health and his inspectors were chiefly directed to an endeavour to improve the general sanitary conditions of the Colony, and to awaken public opinion to the necessity of taking active steps to combat the fly and mosquito nuisance which is an annual source of complaint during the summer months.

64. There are no tropical diseases other than an occasional mild type of fever diagnosed as dengue. Malarial fever is unknown. During the summer months there was a sporadic but mild type of typhoid fever, 54 cases in all resulting in three deaths. There was also a somewhat severe epidemic of measles and whooping-cough during the year. There were 28 deaths from tuberculosis, six less than in 1920.

65. The great majority of houses have a good water-supply, each house having its own rain-water cistern, and typhoid infection is therefore rarely spread through an infected water-supply. The most serious source of infection is from flies and the inadequate sanitary conveniences which prevail in many of the poorer houses.

cus publishing company, inc.

66. A start was also made in the campaign against mosquitoes. Persons on whose premises mosquitoes were found breeding were warned, and in a few cases prosecuted for breach of the by-laws. Some 800 gold-fish and 1,200 mullets were also put into water-tanks to destroy mosquito larvæ. For the work to be really effective, however, a much larger sum of money must be provided annually for the draining of marshes, etc., and the public aroused to a more personal sense of responsibility in the matter.

67. The winter was a particularly dry one, and for a time the serious shortage in the tank-water caused considerable anxiety, but some timely showers relieved the situation before the shortage had become acute.

68. A hurricane broke over the Island on 15th September, 1921, inflicting considerable damage to property. The equable nature of the climate generally is most agreeable, and is no doubt mainly responsible for the satisfactory state of the public health.

69. Typical meteorological data for 1921 were:—

Mean Temperature:—	
January	67·5
April	67·5
July	77·9
November	70·9
Highest Temperature	90·2 (September 10th).
Lowest Temperature	45·8 (January 20th).
Mean Relative Humidity	76 per cent.
Number of Days' Rain	140
Total Rainfall	54·43 inches.
Average Rainfall, 10 years	55·83 ,,

General Conditions.

70. The high cost of living continues here, as elsewhere, to be the most serious factor in the general life of the Colony. Bermuda has never in recent times been a cheap place, and it is now decidedly an expensive one. The price of commodities is much affected by the unfavourable rate for sterling exchange, as nearly all food supplies are imported from the United States of America and Canada. Wages have advanced considerably, but not on the whole as much as living costs, and in many classes there has been a lowering of the standard of living. It is still, however, good compared with other places of a similar character. Wages for artizans run from about 12*s*. to 16*s*. a day, with higher rates for specially skilled men.

71. There has been a shortage of housing accommodation, as building was almost at a standstill during the latter part of the War, and is being only gradually resumed owing to the high cost of materials and shortage of labour. There has been a considerable demand for houses and cottages by visitors during the winter season which has made further inroads on the available accommodation and resulted in a sharp rise in rents, especially among the better-class houses. The revival of the tourist trade and the demand for residences has also brought about a rise in the value of land in the central portion of the Islands.

72. The revival of trade and resumption of public and other works revealed a marked shortage of labour in all directions. This is enhanced by the emigration of considerable numbers of the labouring class to the United States, attracted by the prevailing high wages. Between 425 and 450 passports were issued to labourers, artizans, and domestic servants leaving the Colony. A proportion of these return, and many more, finding conditions in a northern climate not to their liking, would probably do so if they had the means. The withdrawal of this number of persons from labour in so small a community soon makes itself felt, and has been a genuine obstacle to the progress of many works. The shortage among domestic servants has been especially marked. The "seasonal" character of many employments in connection with the tourist trade is also an unsettling factor.

73. There is a good deal of juvenile crime in the Colony, and unfortunately it has not yet been possible to provide a reformatory or industrial school, so that magistrates dealing with such cases are placed in the dilemma of awarding ineffective penalties or sending juvenile offenders to the common prisons—a most objectionable alternative. The prevalence of juvenile crime is in many cases due to the indifference or neglect of parents or guardians. Better educational facilities might improve matters, but it is very difficult to ensure the attendance of small vagrants whose natural guardians are indifferent to, or even ignorant of, their whereabouts and means of livelihood.

74. Education is compulsory up to the age of thirteen, but there are no Government schools, the system being carried out by subsidizing private schools which reach the required standard. Parents, therefore, are at liberty to choose which school their children attend. School fees for indigent children are paid by the Government. The system has certain advantages, but tends to produce too large a number of small schools, which increases the difficulty of inspection and of enforcing attendance. There were thirty schools in 1921 receiving Government grants with a total of 2,731 children on the rolls.

75. The social condition of the coloured population is greatly superior to the average in most colonies of a similar character, as will be readily apparent to any observer who notes their neat, substantial dwellings and general orderly behaviour. There are very few paupers. The poor laws are administered by the Parish Vestries, who maintain paupers by outdoor relief and in the poor-houses. A proposal is under consideration to establish a central poor-house for seven of the nine parishes.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1096	Nyasaland	1920
1097	Weihaiwei	,,
1098	Nigeria	,,
1099	New Hebrides	,,
1100	Somaliland	,,
1101	Straits Settlements	,,
1102	Swaziland	1920–1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1106	Seychelles	,,
1107	Ashanti	,,
1108	Hongkong	,,
1109	British Guiana	,,
1110	British Honduras	,,
1111	Malta	1920–1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920–1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	,,
1118	Weihaiwei	,,
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	,,
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	1920–1921
1123	British Guiana	1921
1124	Grenada	,,
1125	Zanzibar	,,
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1127	Gibraltar	,,
1128	St. Vincent	,,
1129	St. Helena	,,
1130	Fiji	,,
1131	Basutoland	1921–1922

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1167

BERMUDA

REPORT FOR 1922.

(For Report for 1921 see No. 1132.)

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No. 1167.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1922.

NOTE ON HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these Islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the "Legatio Babylonica" of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the Island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship "The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "The Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the islands, was dissolved.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and two unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I.—GENERAL REVIEW.

1. General Sir James Willcocks, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., K.C.S.I., D.S.O., L.L.D., left the Colony on 2nd June, 1922, upon the conclusion of his term of office. He was succeeded by Lieut.-General Sir John Asser, K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., C.B., who arrived on 8th August, 1922.

Mr. W. E. F. Jackson, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, who left the Colony on leave in June, 1921, was appointed Colonial Secretary, Barbados. He was succeeded by Mr. H. M-M. Moore, of the Ceylon Civil Service, who assumed duties on 25th January, 1922.

2. The year under review was one of marked prosperity. The revenue showed an increase of £12,700 over the revenue for 1921, the number of tourists who visited the islands exceeded by 7,500 the figures for 1921. Works of private enterprise were pressed forward and expenditure on Public Works was large.

The volume of legislation, though less than that of 1921, was nevertheless considerable; 49 Acts and 31 Resolves were passed in the course of the year.

3. High prices and shortage of labour continued to be the predominant features of the economic situation during the year under review, and seriously handicapped the progress of construction work, both private and public alike. The labour situation was

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further aggravated by the severe hurricane which swept the island on 21st September, 1922. Considerable damage was done to buildings and retaining walls throughout the Colony, with the result that for a time masons were at a premium, and were only procurable at all at exorbitant rates of wages.

4. Despite these difficulties, good progress was made in various works of private enterprise. The Riddells Bay Golf Course was formally opened to the public on 1st February by General Sir James Willcocks, while nine holes of the Mid-Ocean Golf Course, constructed at Tucker's Town by the Bermuda Development Company, and a temporary Club-house were informally opened by the Governor on 3rd March. On 14th August Lieut.-General Sir John Asser laid the foundation stone of the permanent Club-house at Tucker's Town, and such good progress was made that by the end of the year the building was in a fair way to completion.

Late in the year negotiations were completed between Furness Withy and a group of Bermudian promoters for the flotation of a new Hotel Company, to be called "The Hotel Bermudiana Company," and a valuable site overlooking the harbour just outside existing Corporation limits has been acquired for the erection of a large and commodious first-class hotel.

5. The Immigrant Labour Board, which came into being in January, 1922, had, up to 31st December, been responsible for the introduction of 194 immigrants. This number comprised a band of 138 Newfoundland workmen imported by the Construction Company in connexion with the work at the Tucker's Town Club-house. Newfoundland workmen are also being employed in connexion with the work at the Hotel Bermudiana. It is hoped that a large proportion of these men will make a permanent home in Bermuda.

The labour shortage was not confined to the artisan and domestic servant class, but a great scarcity of agricultural labourers also prevailed. As a result, less land was put under cultivation during the year; in consequence, a scheme was formulated by the Immigrant Labour Board to import 100 Portuguese farm labourers from the Azores. They are expected to arrive in March, 1923.

The general labour situation was, therefore, a little easier than it was a year ago, but it cannot be claimed that the activities of the Board have materially altered the conditions. The greatest problem in connexion with the immigrant is housing, and, until steps are taken to guarantee suitable housing accommodation on arrival, there is little prospect of the Colony being able to attract immigrants of the right type and in sufficient numbers materially to affect the situation.

6. In the department of Public Works the most noteworthy features were the completion of the dredging of the Dundonald Channel to a uniform depth of 26 feet and a width of 150 feet and the opening of the Town Cut Channel to admit the passage of larger steamers such as the "Fort Hamilton"; also the survey and report made by Mr. W. T. Foxlee, M.I.C.E., as to the

feasibility of constructing and operating a light railway in Bermuda.

The questions as to what programme of further dredging operations should be undertaken, and as to what steps should be taken to improve transportation in the light of Mr. Foxlee's report, are at present receiving the consideration of the Legislature.

7. The Liquor Control Act, which made it an offence to convey any intoxicating liquor on board any merchant ship in these islands bound for the United States of America, unless regularly shipped on a bill of lading or forming part of the stores of the ship, threw a great deal of extra work on the police, and necessitated the temporary increase of the force by one sergeant and eight police constables. Further duties were imposed on the police by the passing of The Public Carriage Act and The Cycle Registration Act, which involved the issue of licences to all public carriages, carriage-drivers, and bicycles. The police are to be congratulated on the manner in which these arduous duties have been performed.

8. The year for the tourist trade was a flourishing one. It is estimated that 24,500 visitors came to Bermuda during the year, and a marked feature this year was the increase in the traffic during the summer months. This no doubt was largely to be attributed to the improved summer sailings by the Furness-Bermuda Line. Under a new contract, signed on 1st September, 1922, provision was made for weekly sailings during the winter and two sailings in twenty-one days during the summer months (1st July to 31st December).

9. The high cost of living in Bermuda, to which allusion has already been made in this and previous annual reports, continued to be the most outstanding feature in local economic conditions. This question was for a time freely ventilated in the local Press, and the nature of the correspondence revealed a very general feeling of resentment at present conditions on the part of all sections of the community, temporary and permanent alike. The situation was aggravated by the fact that, despite the general drop in world prices and the great improvement in American exchange, little or no relief was obtained by the public as a result.

II.—FINANCIAL.

Revenue and Expenditure.

10. The total Revenue for the year 1922 was £214,082, and the Expenditure £220,476; the corresponding figures for 1921 being Revenue £201,382 and Expenditure £237,492. This decrease in expenditure was due to the fact that in the Expenditure figures for 1921 was included an investment of £25,000. If this be taken into consideration, the actual figures of expenditure for 1922 show an increase of £7,984, as is explained below.

11. The Revenue showed an increase of £12,700, due principally to increased importations of goods paying *ad valorem* duty. There was a considerable decrease in the import duties on rum and spirits,

which was, however, counterbalanced to some extent by the duties recovered on the re-export of liquor which were imposed in the course of the year.

12. The balance in the Treasury on 31st December, 1922, was £6,861, as compared with £13,254 in 1921. It should, therefore, be borne in mind, as a reference to the appended table of Revenue and Expenditure will show, that the actual revenue of the Colony during the year 1922 was not sufficient to cover the actual expenditure, and that had a balance of £13,254 not been inherited from the previous year, the Colony would not have been able to show a balance of £6,861 on 31st December, 1922. This was, however, anticipated to some extent by the Finance Committee, who, in accordance with the usual local custom, carried forward in their Budget an estimated surplus of £10,000 (which in fact proved to be £13,254) to meet the cost of the various expenditure services recommended for the year.

13. The following is a comparative table of Revenue and Expenditure from 1914 onwards:—

	Revenue. £	*Expenditure.* £
1914	80,504	89,575
1915	106,467	97,643
1916	107,055	109,652
1917	100,447	105,867
1918	91,645	90,684
1919	119,091	107,240
1920	219,753	186,470
1921	201,382	237,492
1922	214,082	220,476

Revenue.

14. The Revenue for 1922 showed an increase of £12,700 compared with the corresponding figure for 1921. The largest increase was under goods paying customs duties at 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, and amounted to £9,789. This is of especial interest, as the revenue under this head in 1921 showed a decrease of £2,037 compared with the figures for 1920, and goes to show that the year saw a very marked revival in general trade over the two preceding years.

15. The total receipts from Customs duties during 1922 were £162,751, as compared with £164,269 during 1921, showing a total decrease of £1,518.

The principal increases worthy of note were:—

	Receipts. £	*Increase over* 1921. £
Ad valorem 10 per cent.	85,266	... 9,789
Malt Liquor	6,960	... 1,766
Export Duty on Spirits (a new tax) ...	4,211	... 4,211
Postal Revenue	28,566	... 4,881
Reimbursements to Government	15,290	... 8,746

16. The increase under postal revenue represents chiefly the increased sale of revenue stamps; the stamp tax on all passenger tickets has been raised from 5s. to 10s.

17. The increase under reimbursements is largely attributable to payments received from the Corporation of Hamilton and private parties for the hire of the dredger, and also to fines and sales of confiscated liquor under the Liquor Control Act.

18. An export duty on liquor of 10s. a case was imposed in June and realized £4,211.

19. The largest decreases were under rum and spirits (other than rum), amounting to a total decrease of £15,175 under these two heads alone; the decrease is probably to be explained by the fact that abnormally large quantities of liquor were withdrawn from bond in December, 1920, so as to avoid the increased rates of duty imposed under The Customs Tariff Act, 1921, and that these stocks were still unexhausted.

The only other decreases worthy of mention were coal, £1,287, and fuel oil £2,012. The high price of coal, which is largely due to the fact that an import tax is levied both by the Colony and the Corporations, compares unfavourably with the price in Panama or the West Indies, and would appear to be having the effect of driving away the bunkering trade from these islands.

Expenditure.

20. Of the total expenditure of £220,476, £59,050 was paid in personal emoluments and £161,425 in other charges. The corresponding figures for 1921 were £48,208 and £189,284. The decrease under " other charges " was largely accounted for by the fact that in 1921 a sum of £25,000 was invested and the amount brought to account under the head " Miscellaneous Expenditure." Exclusive of this sum, the expenditure under " other charges " showed a decrease of £2,859.

21. The total expenditure for the year showed a decrease of £17,016 as compared with the expenditure figures for the year 1921, but, as explained above, this saving was practically confined to the head " Miscellaneous," and, if the sum of £25,000 alluded to above be eliminated, the true expenditure shows an increase of £7,984.

22. Nearly all the regular heads of expenditure showed small increases, of which the following are worthy of special mention :—

Agriculture.—An increase of £2,394, principally on account of expenses incurred in combating the oleander scale under the Plant and Bulbs Diseases and Pests Act, 1921.

Education.—An increase of £4,794, due to purchase of school buildings and the sanctioning of a Government Grant to certain Higher Grade Schools.

Police.—An increase of £1,570, caused by increase of staff in connexion with the Liquor Control Act.

Post Office.—An increase of £3,576, due to transfer of Savings Bank to Post Office and general increase in postal work.

Revenue Department.—An increase of £3,541, on account of increased expenditure for drawbacks and Extra Revenue Officers.

Trade Development Board.—An increase of £4,581, owing to increased steamship subsidies and advertising.

Works Department.—An increase of £10,555, due to increased expenditure on various items of Public Works which had been postponed during the War.

Assets and Liabilities.

23. The liabilities of the Colony, apart from funded debt, totalled £28,000 on account of inconvertible £1 notes issued during the War. The assets totalled £92,350, including an investment fund as surety for the note issue, the nominal value of which was £38,995. Under assets has also been included a sum of £1,022, being balance held by the Crown Agents, to be utilized, as required, in connexion with the Colony's current account for the purchase of stores, etc., made through the Crown Agents. Assets also include a sum of £16,307, being the balance of advances made to the Savings Bank, which the Bank is not yet in a position to refund.

24. The Public Debt is £85,000, viz.: (1) £40,000 in local inscribed stock at 4½ per cent., raised in 1893 for channel improvements, redeemable in 1923; the Sinking Fund totals £48,477 (nominal value of stock); (2) £45,000 raised in 1920 for the liquidation of certain liabilities incurred during the War, redeemable in 1950. The nominal value of the stock representing investments in the Sinking Fund of £1,500 was £16,653 on 31st December, 1922. Practically all the stock in both loans is held in the Colony.

III.—COMMERCIAL.

25. The total value of the trade of the Colony for 1922 was £1,499,992, as compared with £1,564,866 for 1921, a decrease of £64,874. Imports showed a falling off of £73,544, and exports an increase of £8,670, compared with the corresponding figures for 1921. The figures for imports and exports since 1913 are shown below:—

	Imports. £	*Exports.* £
1913	570,575	90,695
1914	565,611	106,661
1915	579,828	101,663
1916	734,799	139,825
1917	674,493	207,724
1918	692,742	139,825
1919	792,683	208,708
1920	1,414,250	265,868*
1921	1,340,240	224,626*
1922	1,266,696	233,296

* Includes £20,000 in specie.

The balance between imports and exports is made up by:—

(*a*) The Tourist Trade.

(*b*) Bunkering and Repairs of Shipping.

(*c*) Expenditure by Imperial Government on Local Forces.

Imports.

26. The total value of imports was £1,266,696. The decrease of £73,544 was largely made up under the head of Coin and Bullion, which accounts for £63,465, but decreases were also shown under the heads of Manufactured Articles, Textiles, Metal and other articles.

On the other hand, imports under the head of Live Animals, Food, Drink and Narcotics showed an increase of £42,345.

27. The decreases under manufactured articles are to be explained by the fall in prices, to which attention was drawn in last year's report, and which continued to be maintained during the present year. Thus, while 580 packages of clothing were imported, as compared with 584 last year, the declared value dropped from £66,363 in 1921 to £33,741 in 1922.

Exports.

28. The total value of exports was £233,296, an increase of £8,670 compared with the figures for 1921. Of this sum the value of vegetable crops exported was £174,438, an increase of £40,727 over last year's figures. The value of vegetables other than onions and potatoes exported to Canada trebled, and, in the case of America, nearly doubled the export figures of last year. Onions showed an increase of £14,304.

29. Against these increases must be put a decrease of £20,000 on account of specie, none being exported during the year, and a decrease of £22,848 on whiskey exported.

Direction of Trade.

30. The sources of imports as compared with 1921 are shown in the following statement:—

	1921. £	1922. £
From United Kingdom	351,289	366,072
,, Canada	221,152	200,850
,, Other British Possessions ...	18,337	20,093
,, Foreign Countries	749,462	679,681
	£1,340,240	£1,266,696

from which it will be observed that the imports from the United Kingdom and British Possessions other than Canada showed an increase, but the imports from Foreign countries (chiefly the United States of America) and Canada a considerable decrease from the figures of the previous year.

31. The largest items of import from the United Kingdom were wine (£10,947), whiskey (£36,040), malt liquor (£26,357), cigarettes (£17,690), woollen goods (£16,220), fancy goods (£52,805), cotton goods (£29,565), clothing (£22,609).

32. The principal imports from Canada were butter, cheese, bran, preserved fish, flour (£29,128), hay, oats, lumber, paper, and potatoes (largely for seed). Imports from Canada via the United States of America appear as of United States origin.

33. Imports from other British Possessions are entirely from the British West Indies, and consist of sugar, rum, cigars, and a new item—fuel oil from Trinidad. West Indian sugar showed a still further decrease from last year's figures, but there were small increases under fresh fruit, potatoes, molasses and fuel oil (£1,520).

34. Imports from foreign countries are practically all from the United States of America, and cover a wide range of articles. The largest items were beef (chilled), £46,259; boots and shoes, £24,899; canned goods, £16,783; cotton goods, £39,168; electrical goods, £14,002; fancy goods, £44,451; groceries, £26,935; hardware, £44,043; smoked meats, £36,873; coal, £16,782; fuel oil, £16,933.

35. Of these items, boots and shoes, canned goods, smoked meats showed small increases, and electrical and cotton goods small decreases. More marked increases were fancy goods, £23,409; groceries, £7,062; hardware, £10,234; while, under coal and fuel oil, the decreases were £23,304 and £28,614, respectively.

Agriculture.

36. The season of 1921–1922, like its predecessor, brought little profit to the farmers of the Colony. Although prices were fair, the high cost of production, aggravated by serious shortage of labour, resulted in loss on the majority of farms. One hundred and twelve thousand bushels of potatoes, valued at £89,522, were exported. Onions continued to show a decrease over the shipments of former years, though the season's crop of 68,670 bushels, valued at £22,969, was larger than that of the previous year. Green vegetables were considerably below the last season's crop, and valued at £61,947. Easter lily bulbs are increasing in importance.

37. The home market continues to absorb more produce as the tourist trade grows. Dairy cattle and poultry are increasing in numbers. The annual agricultural exhibition, revived since the War, should stimulate production. The annual loss through the depredation of plant diseases is very serious, though the season under report was happily a fair year in this respect. The temporary employment of an experienced micologist has resulted in greater attention being given to their control and the adoption of improved methods. Laws governing the importation and exportation of plants have been made more rigid.

38. The shortage of labour is the chief cause of the decline in agriculture, and its only solution is to import agricultural labourers and increase the number of small holdings. The evils of the long-continued practice of seasonal credits extended to farmers by merchants are very apparent in seasons of depression, and a more independent system of co-operation must succeed it if Bermuda agriculture is to maintain its position.

Shipping.

39. The year 1922 showed a decrease of 209,235 tons in the total tonnage entering and clearing at the ports in the Colony, though the figures for British tonnage showed an increase of 526,492.

40. The increase in British tonnage is no doubt attributable to the improved service (including bi-weekly sailings during a large portion of the year) given by the subsidised contract ships of the Furness-Bermuda Line.

41. The decrease in foreign tonnage is probably due to the decline in the bunkering trade, owing to the high price of coal in Bermuda, and is also reflected in the decline in customs receipts under the head of coal and oil fuel, to which attention has been drawn earlier in this report.

42. The total foreign tonnage amounted to 441,421, of which 216,828 appeared under American register.

43. The following table shows the total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years:—

	British. Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
1918	368,343 ...	732,613
1919	632,212 ...	1,258,188
1920	1,019,373 ...	2,371,064
1921	1,210,649 ...	2.387,797
1922	1,737,141 ...	2,178,562

Tourist Trade.

44. About 24,500 " tourists " are estimated to have visited the Colony during 1922, an increase of about 7,500 over the figures for 1921.

45. This increase is to be attributed largely to the increased publicity efforts made by the Trade Development Board and to the arrangements made with the Furness-Bermuda Line, whereby, under their new contract, they are required to provide two sailings during every period of twenty-one days during the summer months.

46. It is estimated that at least 10,284 tourists visited Bermuda during the summer months, and the St. George's Hotel in particular had an exceptionally successful season.

47. The importance of the tourist industry is being increasingly recognized, and during the year the Colony voted a sum of £35,500 to assist the Trade Development Board in encouraging and developing it. Of this sum £28,000 went in ship subsidies, the balance being almost exclusively expended on advertising and the entertainment of visitors.

48. The floating of the Hotel Bermudiana Company marks a further step on the part of private enterprise towards the development of Bermuda as a resort calculated to attract a type of visitor who wants a high standard of comfort and luxury and is prepared to pay for it. At the same time, the needs of the tourist have also been catered for by the opening of the Royal Prince Hotel.

Currency and Banking.

49. The rate for sterling exchange showed a steady upward tendency till, by the end of the year, exchange on New York stood at 5 per cent. premium.

50. During the War, when for a considerable period the rate of exchange for the American dollar stood at as much as 35 per cent. and 34 per cent. above the ordinary par rates, the decision was taken to accept the dollar for customs purposes at $4·80 to the £, regardless of its actual market value, and similarly to accept the normal par rate in the case of all other foreign currencies. This had the effect of placing a premium on all goods of American origin, but was defended on the grounds of the consequent reduction in the selling price of the goods and the benefit derived by the ordinary consumer at a time when the Colony was perforce largely dependent on America for most of the necessaries of life.

51. With the heavy deterioration of the franc and the collapse of the mark, and the gradual revival of trade in these currencies, it became impossible to continue this policy, and it has been found necessary to revert to the normal method of valuing goods for customs entries in £ sterling according to the market rate of exchange.

IV.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Steamship.

52. In September a revised contract was entered into with the Furness-Bermuda Line which, in return for an increased subsidy of £3,000, making £28,000 in all, undertook to replace the " Fort Hamilton " (the old " Bermudian ") by the " Fort St. George " and to fit the latter with a refrigerating plant with a capacity of 60,000 cubic feet. In addition the Company agreed to a revised schedule providing for bi-weekly sailings by the " Fort Victoria " and " Fort St. George " during the months of January to April inclusive, and weekly sailings during the summer months. The benefit of this arrangement to the Colony made itself felt immediately by the increased number of tourists who visited the Island during the summer.

53. The steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Line continued to give a regular fortnightly service with Halifax and the West Indies, while the R.M.S.P. " Araguaya," 10,530 tons, maintained a weekly service with New York during December-April.

54. The growing interest of Canada in establishing stronger trade relationships with Bermuda and the West Indies took tangible shape by the inauguration in the course of the year of two additional steamship services—The Canadian Government Merchant Marine, Ltd., passenger and freight service between Montreal, Bermuda, Nassau, Kingston, Belize and British Honduras, sailing every three weeks from Montreal in summer and from Halifax in winter; and the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, freight service from Montreal to Bermuda, Barbados, Trinidad and Demerara, sailings about twice a month.

Communication with United Kingdom.

55. There is no direct passenger service to the United Kingdom, but during the summer the Elder & Fyffes Company ran seven direct passenger boats each way in which the accommodation was largely sought after. There is little doubt that if only regular passenger sailings could be established between Bermuda and the United Kingdom the traffic is capable of considerable development, and the possibility of increasing these facilities is engaging the Company's serious attention. Unfortunately Jamaica's winter " season " coincides with our own, a circumstance which makes it more profitable for the Company to fill its vessels with through passengers for the longer voyage to Jamaica and leave out Bermuda as an intermediate port of call.

56. Freighters of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, operated by Henry Langridge & Sons, call here every three weeks on their way from the United Kingdom to Havana. This is a most useful service to local importers and is well patronized.

Inland.

57. The need for an improved system of inland transportation has long been a burning and most controversial question. The two solutions most generally favoured are either the construction of some form of light railway or the introduction of a system of motor-omnibuses. After a close division in the House money was voted in March for a survey and report as to the feasibility of a light railway. Mr. W. T. Foxlee, M.I.C.E., was sent out by the Crown Agents and furnished a survey and comprehensive report showing the practicability of such a scheme from an engineering and economic stand-point. A joint Committee of the Legislature is at present engaged in considering Mr. Foxlee's and a variety of other solutions of the problem.

58. There are over 100 miles of good driving roads in the Colony, the road surface being on the whole excellent, though the gradients are severe in some places. It is claimed by those opposed to the use of motors that the roads are too narrow and winding for fast traffic, that the surface would soon deteriorate owing to the scarcity of suitable hard stone, and could only be maintained at very high cost, while, particularly in the summer, the dust nuisance in so thickly populated an area would be a serious consideration. It is moreover freely stated by visitors to the island that the absence of motor traffic constitutes one of its most attractive features.

Telegraph and Telephone.

59. The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West India Company a line to Jamaica viâ Turks Islands. Telegraphic communication with the West Indies has been subject to frequent interruptions. The rate to the United Kingdom is 2*s*. 6*d*. a word.

60. The Naval Wireless Station at Daniels Head has been shut down by the Admiralty for reasons of economy. An opportunity was given the Colony to take it over on certain terms for commercial purposes, but the Colony did not see its way to avail itself of the offer.

61. There is a local telephone company whose lines extend throughout the Islands.

62. Wireless telephony has become a popular feature and numerous receiving sets have been erected by amateurs to receive reports from the various large broadcasting stations in the United States of America.

Post Office.

63. There are nineteen post offices and sub-post offices throughout the Islands, with two deliveries a day of local mails. Mails to and from Hamilton and Ireland are now provided for by contract made by the Board of Trade and not by the Postal Department as formerly. The amount of business transacted by all departments of the Post Office in 1922 was considerably in excess of that of former years, and furnished striking testimony to the marked increase both in the tourist and general trade of the Colony which prevailed.

The total Revenue for the year was ...	£29,147	3	4
The total Expenditure for the year was	12,969	13	5
Showing an excess of Receipts over Expenditure of	£16,177	9	11

64. The revenue for the year showed an increase of £4,884 11*s*. 8*d*. in comparison with 1921; expenditure an increase of £3,805 10*s*. 7*d*. The financial results for the year were therefore most satisfactory, the amount of the excess of receipts over expenditure being £1,079 1*s*. 1*d*. more than in the previous year. The above increase was due principally to the sale of stamps, which amounted to £5,453 2*s*. 4*d*. in excess of the figures for 1921. This increase was largely realized from the sale of 10*s*. stamps required for the Stamp Tax now placed on all passenger tickets.

65. The work in the Parcels Post Branch was also steadily on the increase; the number of parcels received exceeded the number received in the year 1921 by 13,796, and the number despatched by 1,432. The greatest increases were in the traffic with the United States, parcels received showing an increase of 13,396, and parcels despatched an increase of 1,865 over the figures for last year. In view of the great excess of parcels received over those despatched, and the consequent labour and expense involved in dealing with them, negotiations were concluded with the United States Postmaster-General whereby one gold franc should be paid in respect of each parcel received from the United States in excess of those despatched to that country with effect from 1st July, 1922.

V.—VITAL STATISTICS: PUBLIC HEALTH: PUBLIC WORKS.

Vital Statistics.

66. The civil population was estimated at 20,410, a very slight increase over 1921. The proportion of white to coloured persons is 7,001 white to 13,409 coloured. The birth-rate was 33·1 per 1,000 (26·8 among the white and 34·2 among the coloured population). The death-rate was 18·02 per 1,000, being 15·7 for the white and 19·2 for the coloured population. The infant mortality was 16·3 per cent. of living-births, nearly one-half of the deaths occurring during the first month after birth. The number of still-births gives a percentage of 4·4 per 100 living-births.

67. Illegitimate births numbered 12·6 per cent. of the total (3·4 for white and 16·8 for coloured population).

68. There were 171 marriages recorded, or 8·40 per 1,000. The marriage-rate was practically the same among both white and coloured population. The average age at marriage was for bachelors 28 and for spinsters 22·5.

Public Health.—Climate.

69. The general health of the community was good. Measles and influenza were prevalent during the winter and whooping-cough was present throughout the year. There were 38 cases of typhoid fever resulting in six deaths, which were in almost every case directly traceable to defective sanitary arrangements. Typhoid infection through an infected water supply is very rare in Bermuda owing to the fact that every house is required by law to have an adequate rain-water cistern from which all supplies of drinking water are drawn.

70. After considerable controversy a site at Little Head, St. David's Island, was finally selected for the erection of a leper asylum for the accommodation of the eight lepers who are not at present specially provided for. It is hoped that the institution will be ready for occupation in the course of the coming year.

71. In September certain members of the crew of the R.M.S.P. "Chignecto" were found to be suffering from a mild type of smallpox, and 41 passengers were placed under quarantine on Non-such and Coney Islands. Three of the contacts subsequently developed disease, but no further cases materialised. Owing to the presence of this disease in epidemic form in certain of the islands of the West Indies, it has been found necessary to take special precautions in the case of all passengers landing from the West Indies.

72. The rate of infant mortality continued high, being 107 during the year or a rate of 165 to 1,000 births. The chief causes were inexperience and neglect of mothers and improper food. There is no doubt that a lying-in hospital for the mothers of the poorer classes and some sort of parental clinic for the education of mothers are badly needed here.

73. The general sanitary condition of the Island is deplorable when considered in relation to the high wages earned by the poorer classes and the generally high standard of living which prevails.

74. No less than 170 residences were found unprovided with sanitary conveniences of any kind, while out of 4,634 inspections made by the Health Department 2,134 defects were found, or 50 per cent.

75. There is no adequate system of scavenging in operation, with the result that the fly nuisance is a serious one. In the summer months mosquitoes breed in great numbers among the unburied tins which accumulate in the more thickly populated areas and also infest the large undrained marshes, more particularly in the vicinity of Hamilton. Despite much hard work by the Medical Officer of Health and his small staff it has been possible to effect comparatively little improvement, and it is now proposed to obtain the services of Dr. Andrew Balfour, of the Welcome Bureau, to advise on the whole situation.

76. A hurricane broke over the Island on the 21st September, 1922, inflicting damage to Colonial Government property estimated at £6,000: estimated total damage for whole Island £250,000, but the latter figure was undoubtedly overestimated. The equable nature of the climate generally is most agreeable, and it is no doubt mainly responsible for the satisfactory state of the public health.

77. Typical meteorological data for 1922 were:—

Mean Temperature:—

	deg.
January	60·9
April	64·8
July	78·5
November	65·3
Highest Temperature	88·4
Lowest Temperature	44·0
Mean Relative Humidity	77·0
Number of Days' Rain	162
	in.
Total Rainfall	53·87
Average Rainfall, 10 years	55·99

Public Works.

78. Labour conditions were on the whole slightly better than in the previous year, but the department continued to be seriously handicapped both by the general shortage of labour and the fact that it was unable to compete with the high rates of wages prevailing generally.

79. Work was further retarded by the severe hurricane which swept the Island on 21st September, inflicting damages to the estimated value of £6,000. The necessary repairs had to be undertaken at once, and the sanctioned programme of work was necessarily retarded to some extent in consequence.

80. Of the 46 works or services for which provision was made during the year action was taken on 37. Of the 31 items under

Public Works Estimates 16 were completed and six dealt with, and the actual expenditure exceeded the amount originally provided in the Appropriation Act by £7,079.

81. The new Departmental Store was so far completed that it was possible to house in it cement and other building materials.

82. The work of road maintenance was carried on under difficulties and at considerable expense owing to the dearth of suitable hard stone and the excessive cost of cartage.

83. Both Lighthouses were fitted in the course of the year with an improved type of burner, the 75 M/M P.V. " Hood " Burner, which has resulted in a very marked improvement in the intensity of the lights.

84. The Dundonald Channel was completed to a width of 150 feet and 26 feet deep actual, while considerable progress was made at Town Cut Channel, with the result that vessels of the size of the " Fort Hamilton " have been able to use the Channel with safety.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921–1922
1134	Barbados	,,
1135	Trinidad and Tobago	1921
1136	British Honduras	,,
1137	Ceylon	,,
1138	Swaziland	,,
1139	Hongkong	,,
1140	Straits Settlements	,,
1141	St. Lucia	,,
1142	Ashanti	,,
1143	Jamaica	,,
1144	Falkland Islands	1920
1145	Bahamas	1921–1922
1146	Seychelles	1921
1147	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1148	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1921–1922
1149	Mauritius	1921
1150	Sierra Leone	,,
1151	Uganda	,,
1152	Somaliland	,,
1153	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	April–Dec., ,,
1154	Gold Coast	,,
1155	Nigeria	1922
1156	Nyasaland	1921
1157	Falkland Islands	,,
1158	Weihaiwei	1922
1159	Cyprus	,,
1160	Gambia	,,
1161	New Hebrides	1921 & 1922
1162	Nyasaland	1922
1163	Zanzibar	,,
1164	St. Helena	,,
1165	Sierra Leone	,,
1166	Trinidad and Tobago	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1247.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1923

(For Report for 1922 see No. 1167.)

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No. 1247.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1923.

Note on History and Constitution.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the "Legatio Babylonica" of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the Island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship "The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other veseels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him, "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers, called "The Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first twenty-five years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679, they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only twenty-five shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I.—General Review.

1. His Excellency the Governor, Lieut.-General Sir J. J. Asser, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., left the Colony on the 28th July on vacation leave of absence, returning to the Colony and resuming duty on the 7th September. During that period the administration of government devolved on Brevet Lieut.-Colonel G. E. Badcock, C.B.E., D.S.O., commanding Royal Army Service Corps.

On the 19th July the Honourable H. M-M. Moore, Colonial Secretary, and Chairman of the Board of Public Works, proceeded to England on three months' vacation leave. During his absence from the Colony Mr. Moore was transferred to the Government Secretariat at Lagos, Northern Nigeria. Mr. John Trimingham, Assistant Colonial Secretary, was appointed to act as Colonial Secretary on the 19th July, and continued in that office through the remainder of the year.

2. The prosperity of the Colony, to which allusion was made in the Report for 1922, continued throughout the year under review. The revenue showed a large increase of £95,834 over the revenue for 1922, and the number of tourists who visited the islands exceeded by 2,200 the number recorded for 1922. The expenditure on Public Works showed an increase over that for 1922, and dredging operations were steadily maintained. Works

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of private enterprise continued to increase. There was a slight increase in the number of both births and marriages over the number recorded for 1922, while the number of recorded deaths was fewer.

The volume of legislation for the year under review was about the same as that for the previous year.

3. High prices and shortage of labour continued to be important features of the economic situation during 1923, and the progress of constructional work continued no doubt to be handicapped. A number of Portuguese immigrants, including farmers, general labourers, etc., were imported from the Azores.

4. The main feature of the year's work was a preliminary survey of the marshes throughout the Colony and the preparation of preliminary estimates with a view to their reclamation, primarily with a view to the extermination of mosquitoes, and conversion into sports grounds, etc.

Towards the end of the year, Dr. Andrew Balfour, C.B., C.M.G., etc., arrived in the Colony at the invitation of Government for the purpose of investigating matters connected with Public Health and Sanitation in the Colony. Dr. Balfour presented an Interim Report on these matters before leaving the Colony, containing many important recommendations regarding the administration of Public Health matters, some of which have since been submitted for the consideration of the Legislature. Amongst these recommendations may be mentioned the provision for the appointment of a Director of Medical and Health Department, at a substantially increased salary compared with that now drawn by the Medical Officer of Health. While this subject should perhaps more properly come within the scope of the Report for 1924, it may here be mentioned that the Legislature has since made provision for the appointment in question.

5. During the year under review the tourist trade continued to flourish. Particulars are given in paragraph 32 below.

II.—Financial.

Revenue and Expenditure.

6. The total revenue for the year 1923 was £309,916, and the expenditure £277,925; the corresponding figures for 1922 being: For revenue £214,082, and for expenditure £220,476.

7. The chief revenue of the Colony was derived as usual from Customs duties. The principal items being as follows:—

	£
Ad valorem 10 per cent.	109,538
Surtax on 10 per cent.	17,489
Cigars and Cigarettes	9,134
Malt Liquors	7,784
Rum	11,896
Spirits	18,215
Export Duty on Spirits..	60,613

Amongst other receipts the following may be noted :—

	£
Postal Revenue	32,836
Reimbursements to Government (hospital fees, etc.)	12,990

8. The following is a comparative table of revenue and expenditure from 1915 to 1923 inclusive :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1915	106,467	97,643
1916	107,055	109,652
1917	100,447	105,867
1918	91,645	90,684
1919	119,091	107,240
1920	219,753	186,470
1921	201,382	237,492
1922	214,082	220,476
1923	309,916	277,925

Revenue.

9. The revenue for 1923 amounted, as shown above, to £309,916, showing an increase of £95,834 compared with the revenue for 1922. The largest increase was under goods paying Customs duties at 10 per cent *ad valorem* and amounted to £24,272. The total receipts from Customs duties during 1923 were £254,420, as compared with £162,751 for 1922. The increase in postal revenue represents the increased sale of both postage and revenue stamps.

Expenditure.

10. The total expenditure for the year under review was £277,925, compared with £220,476 for 1922. Of that total, £59,440 came under the head of Personal Emoluments (salaries and fees).

11. The principal items of expenditure were as follows :—

	£
Public Debt	44,236
Education	14,321
Hospital	10,147
Police	16,368
Post Office	12,253
Trade Development Board	42,628
Works Department	62,349

With reference to the foregoing table, the amount of £44,236 under Public Debt is shown as an item of expenditure for the reason that the West End Channels Loan of £40,000, raised in 1893, was paid off entirely out of current revenue available at the time, and the Sinking Fund, to which contributions had been made each year for the purpose of paying off the loan, remains invested and intact.

Assets and Liabilities.

12. The liabilities of the Colony, apart from funded debt, totalled at the end of 1923, £28,000, on account of inconvertible £1 notes issued during the war. The assets totalled £186,058 8*s.* 5*d.*, made up as follows :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Cash in the Treasury on 31st December, 1923 ..				38,852	9	5
In hands of Crown Agents :—						
Act No. 49, 1921	829	2	0			
Lent at interest	10,500	0	0			
On deposit	6,000	0	0			
				17,329	2	0
Investments made under the authority of The Government Notes Redemption Act, 1915, nominal value of Stock				41,076	17	3
*Balance of advances made to Savings Bank on account of interest, management, etc. ..				5,921	2	3
Reserve Fund created under authority of The Bermuda Investment Act, 1921, No. 58, nominal value of Stock..				11,451	7	5
Superannuation Fund, nominal value of Stock ..				20,941	2	0
Sinking Fund of Channel Loan transferable to Reserve Fund under The Bermuda Investment Act, 1921				50,486	8	1
				£186,058	8	5

Public Debt.

13. The Public Debt is £45,000, being an amount raised in 1920 for the liquidation of certain liabilities incurred during the war, redeemable in 1950. The nominal value of the stock representing investments in the Sinking Fund at the end of the year was £17,710 9*s.* 11*d.* The stock in this loan is for the most part held in the Colony.

III.—Commercial.

14. The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1923 was £2,376,201, as compared with £1,499,992 in 1922 and £1,564,866 in 1921. Imports show an increase of £615,705 and exports an increase of £260,504, compared with the corresponding

* The repayment of this amount is contingent on the existence of an excess of Savings Bank assets over liabilities.

figures for 1922. The total imports and exports since 1914 are shown below :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1914	565,611	106,661
1915	579,828	101,663
1916	734,799	139,825
1917	674,493	207,724
1918	692,742	139,825
1919	792,683	208,708
1920	1,414,250	265,868*
1921	1,340,240	224,626*
1922	1,266,696	233,296
1923	1,882,401	493,800

IMPORTS.

15. The total value of imports was £1,882,401, as follows :—

	£
From the United Kingdom	708,413
,, the Dominion of Canada	239,048
,, the British West Indies	20,718
,, India	406
,, the United States of America	913,576
,, Cuba	240

16. The following are the largest items forming the imports :—

	£
Butter	37,009
Beef	59,485
Bran	23,828
Building Material	37,131
Canned Goods	25,343
Clothing	34,647
Cotton Goods	72,525
Electrical Goods	36,081
Fancy Goods	93,227
Flour	26,146
Furniture	49,261
Groceries	40,501
Hardware	73,894
Lumber	36,616
Machinery	49,764
Oats	31,287
Smoked Meats	113,939
Potatoes..	17,516
Sugar	31,401
Woollen Goods	26,487
Cigarettes	22,219
Eggs	17,847
Fresh Fruit	20,028
Malt Liquor	26,384
Fuel Oil	17,002
Whiskey..	353,082
Wine	17,353

EXPORTS.

17. The total value of exports was £493,800, as follows:—

	£
To the United Kingdom	450
,, the Dominion of Canada	40,160
,, the British West Indies	7,751
,, the United States of America	125,035
,, St. Pierre, Miquelon	320,404

The chief articles of export with their declared value were as follows:—

	£
Empty Oil Barrels	9,365
Lily Bulbs	8,321
Empty Casks	6,998
Onions	8,871
Potatoes	59,858
Spirits	13,141
Vegetables	42,147
Wine	6,802
Whiskey	335,712

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

18. The sources of imports as compared with 1922 are shown in the following statement:—

	1922.	1923.
	£	£
From United Kingdom ..	366,072	708,413
,, Canada	200,850	239,048
,, Other British Possessions	20,093	21,124
,, Foreign Countries ..	679,681	913,816
	£1,266,696	£1,882,401

19. The largest items of imports from the United Kingdom were:—

Clothing (£23,912).
Cotton Goods (£29,506).
Fancy Goods (£47,429).
Machinery (£17,987).
Woollen Goods (£19,867).
Cigarettes (£19,680).
Malt Liquor (£23,796).
Whiskey (£331,441).
Wine (£16,681).

20. The principal imports from Canada were, as in the past few years:—

Butter (£24,671).
Bran (£16,071).
Preserved Fish (£7,965).
Flour (£22,845).
Hay (£10,750).
Oats (£28,846).
Potatoes (£10,963).
Whiskey (£21,342).

21. Imports from other British Possessions were practically entirely from the British West Indies, and consist of sugar, rum, cigars, and fuel oil.

22. Imports from foreign countries were chiefly from the United States of America, principal items being :—

Butter (£10,262).	Beef (£55,870).
Building Material (£32,063).	Boots and Shoes (£21,279).
Canned Goods (£15,568).	Clothing (£10,467).
Cotton Goods (£42,389).	Electrical Goods (£32,928).
Fancy Goods (£41,489).	Furniture (£42,737).
Glassware (£10,358).	Groceries (£31,966).
Hardware (£65,074).	Lumber (£31,599).
Machinery (£25,463).	Kerosene Oil (£12,588).
Preserved Meats (£110,692).	Poultry and Meats (£12,815).
Sugar (£25,431).	Coal (£12,545).
Eggs (£17,391).	Fuel Oil (£15,963).

AGRICULTURE.

23. The year 1923 was not a prosperous one for Bermuda agriculture. Exports of agricultural products were below the annual averages of the previous ten years. High cost of production, labour shortage, and the attraction of other forms of employment more closely associated with the tourist trade combined to reduce production. Potato exports were further reduced by unfavourable weather conditions, infestation of leaf-roll, and an increase in the quantity consumed locally. The very small quantity of onions exported was due largely to a very severe outbreak of blight (*Peronospora Schleideni*).

24. The quantities of vegetables shipped were as follows :—

	Bushels.
Potatoes	89,611
Onions	35,176
Beets	28,007
Carrots	60,894
Celery	40,302
Parsley	40,688
Other Vegetables	24,083

25. The growing of Bermuda Easter lily bulbs (*L. longiflorum Harrisii*) is increasing, but the conditions governing sale and export are not altogether satisfactory.

26. New York is the principal market, and to it is shipped over 90 per cent. of all agricultural exports.

27. The home market continues to absorb increasing quantities of locally produced vegetables, dairy products and eggs. On 3rd January, 1923, a Farmers' Market was opened in Hamilton, and, though not patronised to the extent anticipated, it is serving a useful purpose. Dairy cattle and poultry are improving in both quality and numbers.

28. The activities of the Department of Agriculture are varied, and during the year under report have included, *inter alia*, experiments with crops and the growing of plants for distribution; inspection services in relation to agricultural and horticultural exports, and live stock, local infectious animal diseases, and local plant diseases and pests; investigation of local plant diseases and pests and methods of control; representation in the New York market, the publication of market information, and the establishment and supervision of a local Farmers' Market; the organisation and direction of the Annual Agricultural Exhibition, and assistance to the Trade Development Board in connection with the Canadian National Exhibition; the supervision of boys' and girls' agricultural clubs; and other matters pertaining to "the practice and study of agriculture." The inclusion of a trained mycologist on the permanent staff makes it possible to give greater attention to the control of plant diseases and pests.

29. The long-established practice of seasonal credits extended to farmers by merchants, and the system of short leases to tenant farmers, who are in the majority, should give place to a more independent system of co-operation and farmer-landowners.

Shipping.

30. The following table shows the total shipping entered and cleared during the year under review, distinguishing British and foreign ships and steamships from sailing vessels:—

	Steam.	*Sailing.*	*Total.*
	Entered.		
British	1,202,657	7,244	1,209,901
Foreign	200,721	14,414	215,135
	Cleared.		
British	1,202,108	6,697	1,208,805
Foreign	201,531	14,107	215,638
			2,849,479

31. The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is shown in the following table:—

	British.	*Total.*
1919	632,212	1,258,188
1920	1,019,373	2,371,064
1921	1,210,649	2,387,797
1922	1,737,141	2,178,562
1923	2,418,706	2,849,479

Tourist Trade.

32. About 26,700 "tourists" are estimated to have visited the Colony during 1923, an increase of about 2,200 over the figures for 1922.

It is estimated that at least 10,500 tourists visited Bermuda during the summer months, the travel during these months also showing an increase, although not as large as that during " the season " or winter months.

The importance of the tourist traffic is being increasingly recognised, and during the year the Colony voted a sum of £42,000 to assist the Trade Development Board in encouraging and developing it. Of this sum £27,500 was expended on steamship subsidies, the balance being almost exclusively spent on advertising and the entertainment of visitors. The continued publicity efforts made by the Trade Development Board are largely responsible for the healthy increase in this trade.

Currency and Banking.

33. The rate for sterling exchange has continued high, the exchange on New York averaging 6 per cent. for the year.

34. For Customs purposes the dollar was accepted at $4.80 to the pound, regardless of the actual market value, and similarly the normal par rate in the case of all other foreign countries was accepted.

IV.—Communications.

Steamship.

35. The contract entered into with the Furness-Bermuda Line in September, 1922, required that Company to maintain the " Fort Victoria " and the " Fort St. George " on the New York–Bermuda route on a schedule providing for bi-weekly sailings by the " Fort Victoria " and the " Fort St. George " during the months of January to April inclusive, and weekly sailings during the summer months. The benefit of this contract to the Colony has continued to make itself felt by the increased number of tourists who have visited the islands during the year.

36. The steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Line continued to give a regular fortnightly service with Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the West Indies, while the R.M.S.P. " Araguaya " maintained a weekly service with New York during January–April, and the R.M.S.P. " Arcadian " maintained a similar service during December.

37. The interest of Canada in establishing stronger trade relations with Bermuda and the West Indies has steadily increased, a tri-weekly passenger and freight service between Montreal, Bermuda, Nassau, Kingston, Belize, and British Honduras being maintained, as well as a fortnightly service by the Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

38. The number of excursion steamers including a stop at Bermuda in their itineraries showed an increase during the year.

Post Office.

39. There are nineteen post offices and sub-post offices throughout the islands, with two deliveries a day of local mails. Mails to and from Hamilton and Ireland Island are now provided for by contract made by the Board of Trade and not by the Postal Department as formerly. The report shows a general development and increase in every branch of the Department.

	£	s.	d.
Total Revenue	33,376	2	8
Total Expenditure	13,467	18	3
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	£19,908	4	5

40. The chief item of revenue is derived from the sale of postage stamps (£31,101), which exceeds the sales in 1922 by £4,000. About half of this sum is realised from the sale of high-value stamps, of which over £13,000 was accounted for by 10*s.* stamps for passenger tickets. The expenditure for the year under review is only £498 in excess of that of the previous year.

41. The work in the parcel-post branch continued to increase :—

	Parcels Received.	*Parcels Sent.*
Number	56,123	10,108
Value	£109,736 13*s.* 7*d.*	£8,923 2*s.* 4*d.*
Duty paid to Treasury ..	£11,896 10*s.* 10*d.*	

42. The following table shows the amount of money orders issued for 1923 as compared with 1922 (through orders are included under United Kingdom) :—

	Amount.					
	1922.			1923.		
Orders Issued.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
United Kingdom ..	14,324	2	7	17,036	5	10
Canada..	2,023	0	11	3,281	5	8
United States of America	6,458	5	9	12,378	14	4
West Indies and British Guiana	4,803	2	2	5,212	1	9
	£27,608	11	5	£37,912	7	7

V.—Vital Statistics.

43. The civil population at the end of 1923 was estimated at 20,846, an increase of 520 over that of 1922. The population of white to coloured persons is 7,183 to 13,663 coloured persons. The living birth-rate amongst the civilian population was 31·3 per thousand (27·8 white ; 33·9 coloured). Total birth-rate, including still-births, was 33·2 per thousand.

44. Illegitimate births, including still-births, numbered 98 out of 693, equivalent to a rate of 14·1 per cent. (1·4 white, 19·5 coloured).

	1922.		1923.	
	White.	*Coloured.*	*White.*	*Coloured.*
Births	194	452	206	487
Deaths	106	231	103	209
Marriages	62	107	82	91

VI.—Public Health.

45. The general health of the community was good. The following diseases were reported during the year: Chicken-pox, 8 cases; diphtheria, 1 case; leprosy, 1 case; measles, 7 cases; scarlet fever, 52 cases; typhoid fever, 44 cases; whooping-cough, 13 cases.

Vaccination has been compulsory in the Colony for the past forty years, but during the year under review a new Act was passed, vesting the administration of the law on the subject in the Public Health Department.

The following figures relate to the defects found on inspection of premises :—

Year.	*Inspections.*	*Defects.*
1921	2,284	1,268
1922	4,634	2,134
1923	4,473	1,078

Out of the 1,078 defects found in 1923, 711 were later on remedied.

There were 53 homes reported to be without tanks in 1923, compared with 177 in 1922.

There was a drought during the months of June and July, when about 50 per cent. of the tanks in the Colony were nearly dry.

VII.—Public Works.

46. Labour conditions showed no marked improvement over those prevailing in 1922, in spite of the importation of a number of immigrants, mostly labourers imported during the year, and were due to a large extent to the high rate of wages paid, especially to skilled labour. Much assistance to Public Works, however, was afforded by prison labour.

47. Of the 49 works or services for which provision was made during the year, 42 were actually dealt with. Of the 33 items under Public Works Estimates, 21 were completed and 4 were undertaken and in hand at the end of the year.

Expenditure.

	£
Total Votes for Public Works Department ..	57,865
Supplementary Votes	14,100
	£71,965

	£
Total amount expended	58,806
Unexpended balance	13,159
	£71,965

48. The expenditure therefore represents 81·71 per cent. of the total appropriations compared with 81·69 per cent. in 1922.

49. The Colonial dredger was employed from May until December, mainly on work at Dundonald Channel in the Great Sound, when that channel was enlarged to a width of 250 ft. and a depth of not less than 26 ft. (actual) at M.L.W. In addition, the dredger was employed for short intervals in other minor dredger works, including those at Corporation Wharves, Paynter's Channel, shoal at No. 6 Black Buoy in Narrows Channel, Darrell's Wharf and Somerset Bridge Wharf, and shoal at White's Island. The amount of material dredged during the year was 207,910 tons (rock 107,310 tons and sand 100,600 tons).

VIII.—Legislative.

50. There were forty-five Acts passed during the year under review, amongst the more important of which were the following :—

The Plant Pathologist Act, which provided for an addition to the staff of the Agricultural Department by the appointment of a qualified plant pathologist.

The Companies Act, which contains certain general provisions relating to the incorporation of Joint Stock Companies, which had hitherto been embodied in each Act by which a company was incorporated.

The Statute Law (Compilation and Revision) Act, which provides for a new Compilation of Bermuda Laws up to the year under review.

The Municipalities Act, which consolidates and amends the Acts relating to the City of Hamilton and Town of St. George.

The Quarantine Act, which consolidates and amends the various Acts relating to quarantine. Under this Act all ships arriving in the Colony are required to be visited, with certain exceptions, by the Health Officer at the Port of St. George.

Another important change effected by this measure is that the Medical Officer of Health is made responsible for the administration of all quarantine services.

The Bermuda Local Loan Redemption Act, which authorised the redemption out of the Public Treasury of a loan of £40,000, raised under an Act of 1892, to defray the expenses of the improvement of the West End Channels, instead of by realising invested funds for which a Sinking Fund was created when the loan was raised.

IX.—Immigration and Emigration Statistics.

51. Immigrants subject to Immigration Law .. 97
Immigrants and others not subject to Immigration Law 579
The number of emigrants was 507

	Arrivals.	*Departures.*
First class passengers	27,954	26,859
Second and third class passengers	1,074	1,147

The following figures relate to immigrants imported through the agency of the Immigrant Labour Board during the year :—

A total of 369 immigrants were imported (men 323, women 15, and children 31). Since the formation of the Immigrant Labour Board at the beginning of 1922 the total of 678 immigrants were imported through the Board up to the end of 1923. Of the 369 immigrants imported during the year :—

48 came from England.
202 ,, ,, Newfoundland.
2 ,, ,, Canada.
21 ,, ,, the West Indies.
96 ,, ,, the Azores.

They consisted for the most part of carpenters, labourers, engineers, clerks, and masons. These figures are included in the tables given above relating to immigrants.

X.—Meteorological.

52. The following are the chief figures :—

Mean atmospheric pressure	29·966
Mean temperature	69·7
Highest temperature	90° (26th Aug.)
Lowest temperature	43° (18th Jan.)
Mean relative humidity	77 per cent.
Number of days' rain	176
Wettest month	November
Driest month	June
Average rainfall last 10 years	50·06 in.
Total rainfall for 1923	45·23 in.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1220	Uganda	1923
1221	Grenada	,,
1222	British Guiana	,,
1223	St. Vincent	,,
1224	St. Helena	,,
1225	Barbados	1923–1924
1226	Somaliland	1923
1227	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	,,
1228	Hongkong	,,
1229	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1923–1924
1230	Colonial Survey Committee Report	1914–1923
1231	Cayman Islands	1923
1232	Leeward Islands	1923–1924
1233	Federated Malay States	1923
1234	Mauritius	,,
1235	Straits Settlements	,,
1236	Seychelles	,,
1237	Tongan Islands Protectorate	1923–1924
1238	Brunei	1923
1239	Unfederated Malay States	,,
1240	St. Lucia	,,
1241	Bahamas	1924
1242	Falkland Islands	1923
1243	Ceylon	,,
1244	Basutoland	1924
1245	Nigeria	,,
1246	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1923–1924

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

Printed by H.M.S.O. Press, Harrow.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1279.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1924

[*For Report for* 1922 *see No.* 1167 (*Price* 9*d.*) *and for Report for* 1923 *see No.* 1247 (*Price* 6*d.*)]

LONDON:
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1925.

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No. 1279.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1924.

Note on History and Constitution.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the "Legatio Babylonica" of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the Island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship, "The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him, "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers, called "the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first twenty-five years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679, they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only twenty-five shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I.—General Review.

1. The prosperity of the Colony alluded to in the report for 1923 continued throughout the year under review. The revenue showed an increase of £19,223 over that for 1923. The expenditure on Public Works in 1924 exceeded that for the previous year, and dredging operations were steadily maintained. The number of tourists who visited the Islands was much about the same as that recorded for 1923. There was a slight increase in the number of both births and marriages but the recorded deaths were also greater.

The volume of legislation for the year under review was slightly less than that for the previous year.

2. High prices continued to prevail but the progress of constructional work appeared to be less handicapped than in the past few years.

3. The Colony participated in the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley and had its own pavilion where dioramas, a relief map of the Colony, specimens of local produce, souvenirs, etc., were displayed.

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II.—Financial.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue for the year 1924 was £329,139, and the expenditure £312,969; the corresponding figures for 1923 being: for revenue £309,916 and for expenditure £277,925.

The chief revenue of the Colony was derived as usual from Customs duties. The principal items being as follows :—

	£
Ad valorem 10 per cent.	105,321
Surtax on 10 per cent.	17,379
Cigars and Cigarettes	9,678
Malt Liquors	8,858
Rum	11,341
Spirits	22,937
Export Duty on Spirits	77,548
Wine	3,210

Amongst other receipts the following may be noted :—

	£
Postal Revenue	34,314
Light Dues	5,115
Fees of Office	3,368
Reimbursements to Government—	
Hospital Fees	3,819
Miscellaneous	5,320

The following is a comparative table of revenue and expenditure from 1916 to 1924 inclusive :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1916	107,055	109,652
1917	100,447	105,867
1918	91,645	90,684
1919	119,091	107,240
1920	219,753	186,470
1921	201,382	237,492
1922	214,082	220,476
1923	309,916	277,925
1924	329,139	312,969

Revenue.

The revenue for 1924 amounted, as shown above, to £329,139, showing an increase of £19,223 compared with the revenue for 1923. The principal items under which increases occurred and the extent of the increases are as follows :—

	£
Customs—	
Spirits other than Rum	4,721
Export Tax on Spirits	16,934
Miscellaneous—	
Post Office Revenue	1,478
Reimbursements (Hospital)	3,819

(The sum of £3,819 shown above as reimbursements from the Hospital does not represent the actual excess of receipts over those for 1923 as the receipts for 1923 do not appear to have been reimbursed during that year.)

The total receipts from Customs duties during 1924 were £273,226, as compared with £254,414 for 1923.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year under review was £312,969, compared with £277,925 for 1923. Of that total £64,426 came under the head of Personal Emoluments, as compared with £57,528 for 1923.

The principal items of expenditure were as follows :—

	£
Education	15,448
Hospital	15,282
Police	19,228
Post Office	14,282
Miscellaneous	34,495
Revenue Department	10,199
Trade Development Board	45,984
Works Department	93,877

The principal increase of expenditure for 1924 over that for 1923 is accounted for under the following heads :—

	£
Hospital	5,134
Miscellaneous	32,052
Trade Development Board	3,356
Works Department	31,528

With reference to the foregoing table, increase in expenditure under the head of " Hospital " was due to increase in Nursing Staff and increased expenditure for furnishings.

The large increase under " Miscellaneous " is due mainly to the investment of £30,000 as a reserve fund being shown as a charge under that head.

The expenditure under " Trade Development Board " was chiefly on account of steamship subsidies and advertising, and the increased expenditure for 1924 was due to the increased cost of advertising.

The substantial increase in expenditure under " Works Department " was due to increases under various heads, but chiefly to the purchase of a Rockbreaker at a cost of £22,000.

Assets and Liabilities.

The liabilities of the Colony, apart from funded debt, totalled at the end of 1924, £28,000, on account of inconvertible £1 notes

issued during the war. The assets totalled £231,261, made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cash in the Treasury on 31st December, 1924 ..				55,022	17	2
In hands of Crown Agents :—						
Credit under Act No. 49, 1921	5,000	0	0			
Balance from sale of Savings Bank Stock	4,862	8	11			
				9,862	8	11
Balance of advances made to Savings Bank on account of interest, etc.				2,868	8	9
Reserve Fund created under authority of The Bermuda Investment Act, 1921, No. 58, and 1923, No. 36. Nominal value of stock ...				96,961	1	9
Superannuation Fund, nominal value of stock ...				23,229	4	10
Investments made under the authority of the Government Notes Redemption Act, 1915. Nominal value of stock				43,317	10	1
				£231,261	11	6

PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt in 1924 was £45,000, being an amount raised in 1920 for the liquidation of certain liabilities incurred during the war, redeemable at par in 1950. The nominal value of the stock representing investments in the Sinking Fund on the 31st December, 1924, was £18,780 15s. 1d. The stock in this loan is for the most part held in the Colony.

III.—Commercial.

The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1924 was £2,261,275, as compared with £2,376,201 in 1923 and £1,499,992 in 1922. The total value of imports was £1,815,023, as compared with £1,882,401 in 1923, a decrease of £67,378. The total value of imports and exports from 1915 to 1924 inclusive are as follows :—

	Imports. £	*Exports.* £
1915	579,828	101,663
1916	734,799	139,825
1917	674,493	207,724
1918	692,742	139,825
1919	792,683	208,708
1920	1,414,250	265,868*
1921	1,340,240	224,626*
1922	1,266,696	233,296
1923	1,882,401	493,800
1924	1,815,023	446,252

* Includes £20,000 in specie.

IMPORTS.

The total imports as compared with those for 1923 are made up as follows :—

	1923.	1924.
	£	£
From the United Kingdom ...	708,413	666,316
,, the Dominion of Canada...	239,048	331,397
,, the British West Indies ...	20,718	25,627
,, India	406	418
,, the United States of America...	913,576	790,809
,, Cuba	240	357
,, Teneriffe	—	99

The following are the largest items forming the imports :—

	£
Butter	34,871
Beef	67,144
Bran	23,013
Building Material	17,561
Canned Goods	30,486
Clothing	40,296
Cotton Goods	66,950
Electrical Goods	53,775
Fancy Goods	122,454
Flour	31,188
Furniture	48,927
Groceries	34,888
Hardware	53,455
Jewellery	19,180
Lumber	16,571
Machinery	26,546
Oats	36,217
Oil Kerosene	19,866
Smoked Meats	38,188
Potatoes	18,166
Sugar	34,376
Woollen Goods	26,328
Cigarettes	27,624
Coal	29,960
Fresh Fruit	20,679
Malt Liquor	45,942
Whiskey	316,199
Wine	24,245

Exports.

The total value of exports for 1924 was £446,252 (a decrease of £47,548), made up as follows :—

	1923.	1924.
	£	£
To the United Kingdom ...	450	9,872
,, ,, Dominion of Canada ...	40,160	26,163
,, ,, British West Indies ...	7,751	22,181
,, ,, United States of America	125,035	199,177
,, St. Pierre, Miquelon ...	320,404	188,859

The chief articles of export, with their declared value, were as follows :—

	£
Empty Oil Barrels	18,304
Lily Bulbs	10,847
Empty Casks	13,619
Onions	14,246
Potatoes	85,655
Spirits other than Whiskey	5,893
Vegetables	83,971
Whiskey	203,919

Direction of Trade.

The sources of imports during 1924, as compared with 1923, are shown in the following statement :—

	1923.	1924.
	£	£
From United Kingdom ...	708,413	666,316
,, Canada	239,048	331,397
,, Other British Possessions	21,124	26,045
,, Foreign Countries ...	913,816	791,265
	£1,882,401	£1,815,023

The largest items of imports from the United Kingdom were, as in 1923, the following :—

Clothing (£28,913).
Cotton Goods (£34,436).
Electrical Goods (£15,471).
Fancy Goods (£71,110).
Woollen Goods (£22,118).
Cigarettes (£23,236).
Malt Liquor (£42,958).
Whiskey (£193,450).
Wine (£23,947).
Oilmen's Stores (£10,572).

The principal imports from Canada were :—

Butter (£23,362).
Bran (£14,743).
Flour (£26,055).
Hay (£10,669).
Oats (£34,054).
Potatoes (£11,519).
Whiskey (£122,749).

Imports from other British Possessions were practically entirely from the British West Indies, and consist of sugar, rum, cigars, fresh fruit and fuel oil.

Imports from foreign countries were chiefly from the United States of America, the principal items being :—

Beef (£64,859).
Boots and Shoes (£22,290).
Clothing (£10,586).
Electrical Goods (£35,960).
Furniture (£37,163).
Hardware (£44,970).
Jewellery (£10,243).
Kerosene Oil (£19,866).
Poultry and Meats (£12,286).
Coal (£23,351).
Building Material (£14,809).
Canned Goods (£24,336).
Cotton Goods (£31,642).
Fancy Goods (£47,012).
Groceries (£28,836).
Lumber (£11,111).
Machinery (£21,065).
Smoked Meats (£360,138).
Sugar (£32,612).
Fresh Fruit (£14,643).

Agriculture.

The year under review was more favourable to local agriculture than were the years immediately preceding it. All kinds of exported produce exceeded in value the exports of 1923 and better prices were obtained in some cases. There was also a substantial increase in the quantity of produce grown for local consumption.

Efforts in various directions have been and are being made, first, to aid and encourage the Bermuda farmers to increase their acreage under cultivation, especially for early potatoes, and, secondly, to find new and regular markets for such produce. The inspection services of the Department continue to enlarge. A greater effort is being made at Bermuda's Section at the British Empire Exhibition this year to investigate the British market, particularly with regard to the lily industry. It is hoped also that as a result of the coming into operation on 1st January, 1925, of The Shipment of Produce to Canada Act, 1923, under which the Board of Agriculture is authorized to license shippers of onions to Canada, this branch of local industry will benefit.

Arrangements have been made by the Board to appoint agricultural students under the provisions of Section 10 of The Agricultural Department Act.

The following table shows the quantities of the chief agricultural products exported during the year as compared with 1923 :—

	1923.	1924.
Potatoes	33,604 barrels.	35,254 barrels.
Onions	35,176 bushels.	21,848 bushels.
Green Vegetables ...	193,974 ,,	280,745 ,,
Easter Lily Bulbs (*L. Harrisii*).	3,116 cases.	3,539 cases.

The total quantities of produce (exclusive of lily bulbs) were 416,604 bushels, as compared with 318,761 bushels in 1923.

The approximate or estimated local values of all agricultural products are given below :—

	£
Produce exported to United States	173,000
Produce exported to Canada	4,000
Produce exported to West Indies	2,500
Lily bulbs exported	12,500
Produced for domestic consumption :—	
Vegetables	44,000
Bananas	17,000
Milk	61,000
Eggs and poultry	34,000
Meat, chiefly pork	18,000
	£366,000

During the year under report Bermuda produce, exclusive of lily bulbs, was shipped direct to the following markets in the proportions given : New York, 91·3 per cent. ; Canada, 6·4 per cent. ; and the West Indies, 2·3 per cent.

The Farmers' Market, to which reference was made in the report for 1923, though it has not developed to the extent anticipated, serves a large number of people and control prices to the benefit of producers and consumers. It is estimated that about 16,000 persons patronized the market in 1924.

The annual Agricultural Exhibition continues to be an outstanding feature of the Department's activities, and the Show for 1924 was more successful than any previous Exhibition. The exhibits for 1924 numbered 3,433, as compared with 2,234 in 1923, and the attendance for 1924 was about 12,000 persons, being 3,000 more than in 1923.

The activities of the Department during the year were maintained and included, as in 1923, *inter alia*, experiments with crops and the growing of plants for distribution, inspection services in relation to agricultural and horticultural exports, and live stock, local infectious animal diseases and local plant diseases and pests, investigation of local plant diseases and pests and methods of control, representation in the New York Market, the publication of market information and supervision of a local Farmers' Market, the organisation and direction of the Annual Agricultural Exhibition and assistance to the Trade Development Board in connection with the Canadian National Exhibition, the supervision of boys' and girls' agricultural clubs and other matters pertaining to " the practice and study of agriculture."

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review entered and cleared was 2,758,306 tons, a decrease of 91,173 tons as compared with 1923.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

	British.		
	Steam. Tons.	*Sail.* Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
Entered	1,167,010	7,857	1,174,867
Cleared...	1,175,522	7,770	1,183,292
Total British Shipping			2,358,159

	Foreign.		
	Steam. Tons.	*Sail.* Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
Entered	188,787	12,823	201,610
Cleared	186,619	11,918	198,537
Total Foreign Shipping			400,147

The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is shown in the following table :—

	British.	Total.
1920	1,019,373	2,371,064
1921	1,210,649	2,387,797
1922	1,737,141	2,178,562
1923	2,418,706	2,849,479
1924	2,358,159	2,758,306

Tourist Trade.

About 26,067 " tourists " visited the Colony during 1924, a decrease of about 630 compared with the figures for 1923. This is accounted for by the fact that (owing to unsatisfactory date being set for the Christmas school vacations in New York City) the steamship companies did not arrange for special excursions during the Christmas vacation period, whilst in 1923 two excursions were arranged, bringing to the Island about 800 additional people.

It is estimated that at least 11,000 tourists visited Bermuda during the summer months, the travel in these months showing an increase over the previous year.

The tourist traffic is recognised to be one of the most important sources of revenue, and the sum of £38,881 was voted by the Colony during the year to assist the Trade Development Board in encouraging and developing it. Of this the sum of £21,000 was expended on steamship subsidies, the remainder being almost exclusively spent on advertising and the entertainment of visitors. The great advertising opportunities afforded by large exhibitions were recognised and appropriate displays made at both the great British Empire Exhibition and the Canadian

National Exhibition. To the continued activity of the Trade Development Board in keeping Bermuda before the eyes of the travelling public is largely attributed the healthy condition of this trade.

Apart from the indirect benefits derived from the tourist trade, the stamp tax of 10s. on passenger tickets payable in respect of each person leaving Bermuda, is responsible for a direct source of revenue amounting during the year under review to £13,034, approximately. This revenue is shown in the receipts of the Post Office Department.

Currency and Banking.

The rate of sterling exchange was abnormally high, the exchange on New York averaging 10·66 per cent. for the year. For customs purposes the value of the dollar was accepted at $4·80 to the pound, regardless of the actual market value, and similarly the normal par rate in the case of all foreign countries was accepted.

Steamship Communication.

The contract existing with the Furness Bermuda Line required that Company to maintain the steamships "Fort Victoria" and the "Fort St. George" on the New York-Bermuda route on a schedule providing for bi-weekly sailings by the two ships during the months of January to April inclusive, and weekly sailings during the summer months. This contract proved of inestimable value to the farming community, providing, as the season required, appropriate cold storage facilities for the transportation of fresh winter vegetables to the New York market. The benefit was also manifest in the continued healthy condition of the tourist trade.

The steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company continued to maintain a regular fortnightly service with Halifax, Nova Scotia, and the West Indies, while the R.M.S.P. "Arcadian" maintained a weekly service with New York during January-April, and the R.M.S.P. "Araguaya" maintained a similar service during December.

A tri-weekly passenger and freight service between Montreal, Canada, and Bermuda, Bahamas, Jamaica and British Honduras was maintained by the Canadian Government Merchant Marine, and a fortnightly freight service by the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company.

A direct passenger service between England and Bermuda was maintained by Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., and a freight service was maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

The number of excursion steamers including a stop at Bermuda in their itineraries exceeded that of previous years.

IV.—Post Office.

There are nineteen post offices and sub-post offices throughout the islands, with two deliveries a day of local mails. Mails to and from Hamilton and Ireland Island are provided for by contract made by the Board of Trade. There was a general development and increase in every branch of the Department.

	£	s.	d.
Total Revenue	**34,944**	**13**	**4**
Total Expenditure	**15,354**	**3**	**1**
Profit of Revenue over Expenditure ...	**£19,590**	**10**	**3**

There was an increase in both Revenue and Expenditure, but the profit for the year was £317 14s. 2d. less than that for 1923.

The chief item of Revenue was, as in 1923, derived from the sale of postage stamps, the amount being £32,182, which exceeded the sales in 1923 by £1,081.

The following table shows the Revenue and Expenditure for the past five years :—

Year.	Revenue.			Expenditure.			Profit.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1920 ...	18,501	7	3	8,516	5	7	9,985	1	8
1921 ...	24,262	11	8	9,164	2	10	15,098	8	10
1922 ...	29,147	3	4	12,969	13	5	16,177	9	11
1923 ...	33,376	2	8	13,467	18	3	19,908	4	5
1924 ...	34,944	13	4	15,354	3	1	19,590	10	3

The following table shows the number of mails received and despatched during the year and the number of bags comprising the mails as compared with 1923 :—

	Received.		Despatched.	
	No. of Mails.	No. of Bags.	No. of Mails.	No. of Bags.
1923	239	15,109	221	5,000
1924	225	16,165	215	4,911

The work of the parcel-post branch continued to increase :—

	Parcels Received.	Parcels Sent.
Number	58,168	10,832
Value	£118,098	£8,817
Duty paid to Treasury	£13,082	

The following table shows the amount of money orders issued for 1924 as compared with 1923 (through orders being included under United Kingdom) :—

Orders Issued.	Amount. 1923. £ s. d.	1924. £ s. d.
United Kingdom	17,036 5 10	19,844 6 10
Canada	3,281 5 8	3,182 17 5
United States of America ...	12,378 14 4	11,441 17 3
West Indies and British Guiana	5,212 1 9	5,360 11 7
	£37,912 7 7	£39,829 13 1

The value of Money Orders paid in the Colony for 1924 compared with 1923 was as follows :—

Orders Paid.	Amount. 1923. £ s. d.	1924. £ s. d.
United Kingdom	1,377 0 8	1,247 15 1
Canada	410 6 7	458 12 8
U.S. of America	3,395 9 3	2,473 16 7
West Indies and British Guiana	296 1 3	325 5 1
Repaid Orders	150 19 10	191 8 11
	£5,629 17 7	£4,696 18 4

Savings Bank.

At the end of the year the total number of open accounts was 3,611, as compared with 3,304 in 1923, an increase of 307.

The amount to the credit of depositors was £72,758 10s., as compared with £64,763 1s. 10d. in 1923, an increase of £7,995 8s. 2d.

The rate of interest paid by the Savings Bank is 2½ per cent. per annum.

The invested funds at the end of 1924 amounted to £91,365 3s. 3d., and cash in hand £1,030 16s. 1d. making the total assets of the Bank £92,395 19s. 4d. The liabilities of the Bank were £75,626 18s. 9d. (£72,758 10s. being due to depositors and £2,868 8s. 9d. due to the Colonial Treasury).

Statement of Deposits and Withdrawals, 1923–1924.

Deposits.		Withdrawals.	
1923.	1924.	1923.	1924.
£29,559 2 4	£34,880 19 2	£22,947 2 5	£28,532 0 9

V.—Vital Statistics.

The total population at the end of 1924 was estimated at 23,870. The population of white to coloured persons is 10,188 to 13,682 coloured persons.

The following table shows the number of births and deaths during the year according to colour :—

	White.	Coloured.
Births	227	471
Deaths	105	228

The above total does not include still births, of which there were 6 white and 31 coloured.

The living birth rate among the civilian population was 29·2 per 1,000 (22·2 white and 34·4 coloured). The total rate, including still births, was 30·7 per 1,000.

Illegitimate births, including still births, numbered 104 out of the total births including still births of 735, equivalent to a rate of 14·1 per cent (3·09 white and 23·9 coloured).

Deaths, including still births, numbered 370 (111 white and 259 coloured), the death rate being 10·8 per 1,000 among the white and 18·9 among the coloured persons.

The infantile death rate per 1,000 living births was 103 (43 white and 129 coloured).

The total number of marriages during the year was 196 (84 white, 106 coloured and 6 " mixed "). The marriage rate per 1,000 inhabitants was 8·21.

VI.—Public Health.

The general health of the community was good. The following number of cases of infectious diseases were reported during the year compared with the number for 1923 :—

	1923.	1924.
Scarlet Fever	52	65
Typhoid Fever	44	33
Measles	9	33
Chicken-pox	10	50
Diphtheria...	1	29
Leprosy	1	1
Whooping-cough	13	0

The following figures relate to the defects found on inspection of premises :—

Year.	Inspections.	Defects.
1921	2,284	1,268
1922	4,634	2,134
1923	4,473	1,078
1924	3,984	774

Out of the 774 defects found during the year 564 were remedied.

Fourteen occupied houses were reported as unfit for habitation, compared with 3 in 1923 and 6 in 1922. There were also 2 houses reported to be without sanitary convenience or water supply, compared with 12 in 1923 and 70 in 1922.

During the year an Act, entitled the Director of Health Act, was passed, providing for the appointment of a Director of the Medical and Health Department in substitution for the office of Medical Officer of Health, the duties of the latter office being incorporated with the new post. In November Dr. G. B. Mason, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., assumed duty as Director of the Medical and Health Department.

VII.—Public Works.

Labour conditions showed some improvement over those prevailing in 1923, owing to the importation of a further number of Portuguese labourers and to the services of some British artisans employed on agreement through the Crown Agents. Another factor was the cessation of large private building operations.

	£
The votes under the Appropriation Act for the year amounted to	75,480
to which was added Supplementary Votes of £18,761 and Special Resolves of £2,292	21,053
Making a total of	96,533
Of which was expended	77,405
Leaving an unexpended balance of	£19,128

The amount expended, therefore, represents 80·18 per cent. of the total votes, compared with 81·71 per cent. in 1923.

	Appropriation.	Expenditure.
Recurrent Works	... £27,751	£25,999 2 8
Extraordinary	... £68,782	£51,405 11 10

Dredging Works.

The dredger "King George" was worked for 244 days out of 306 working days in the year.

Of the 244 days' employment 24 days were occupied in private work for the Corporation of Hamilton and the Bermuda Development Company, Ltd.

Repairs at H.M. Dockyard, holidays and Sundays, &c., accounted for the remaining 122 days.

In addition 1,221 hours' overtime were worked, making a total of 379 working days on the basis of a 9-hour day.

The total amount of material removed, compared with 1923, was as follows :—

	1923. Tons.	1924. Tons.
Rock	107,310	138,840
Sand	100,600	95,550
Total ...	207,910	234,390

This output was produced at a cost of 2s. 1½d., against 3s. 8⅔d. per ton in 1923.

The total expenditure on dredging works amounted to £25,282 5s. 7d., and the amount received for the hire of the Dredger and Drill Scow was £2,730 2s. 8d.

The Rockbreaker purchased for the Colony by the Crown Agents from Messrs. Lobnitz & Co. arrived on 3rd July and commenced work on the 30th August and proved completely successful.

VIII.—Legislative.

There were 35 Acts passed during the year under review, amongst the more important of which were the following :—

The Bermuda Investment Act, 1924, providing for the investment of £30,000, being a portion of surplus funds in the Treasury, to augment the Reserve Fund created in 1921.

The Director of Health Act, 1924, providing for the appointment of a Director of Health in succession to the Medical Officer of Health, as recommended in the Report of Dr. Andrew Balfour, C.B., C.M.G., &c., in 1923.

The Bermuda Railway Company Act, 1924, providing for the incorporation of the Bermuda Railway Company, Ltd., for the purpose of constructing and operating a light railway in the Colony.

The New York Steam Communication Act, 1924, providing for the continuation of the subsidized steamship service, by contract with Messrs. Furness, Withy & Co., Ltd., between Bermuda and New York.

The Parish Vestries Act, 1924, permitting voting by ballot at parochial elections.

The Signal Stations Act, 1924, under which the signal stations in the Colony, formerly maintained by the Military authorities and the Public Works Department, were transferred to the Board of Trade.

The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship Act, 1924, provided for four scholarships each of the value of £125, tenable for four years, to assist and encourage Bermuda youths educated locally to acquire technical educational advantages abroad.

The Public Officers Salaries Act, 1924, which provided for an annual rental allowance of £100 each to the Chief Justice and the Colonial Secretary until official residences for those officers shall have been provided.

IX.—Immigration and Emigration Statistics.

Immigrants subject to Immigration Law ...	103
Immigrants and others not subject to Immigration Law	593
The number of emigrants was	466

	Arrivals.	Departures.
First-class passengers	26,964	27,569
Second and third-class passengers	1,583	1,515

Immigration under Immigrant Labour Board.

The following figures relate to immigrants imported through the agency of the Immigrant Labour Board during the year :—

A total of 371 immigrants were imported (men 240, women and children 131). Since the formation of the Immigrant Labour Board at the beginning of 1922 the total of 1,049 immigrants were imported through the Board up to the end of 1924. Of the 371 immigrants imported during the year :—

54 came from England.
1 ,, ,, the West Indies.
316 ,, ,, the Azores.

They consisted for the most part of labourers, masons, clerks and domestic servants. These figures are included in the tables given above relating to immigrants.

X.—Meteorological.

The following are the chief figures :—

Mean atmospheric pressure	30·639 in.
Mean temperature	69·1°
Highest temperature	89·6° (Aug. & Sept.)
Lowest temperature	50° (March).
Mean relative humidity	80 per cent.
Number of days' rain	180
Wettest month	July.
Driest month	December.
Average rainfall last 10 years ...	49·52 in.
Total rainfall for 1924	56·18 in.

JOHN TRIMINGHAM,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

24*th November*, 1925.

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No. 1309.

BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1925

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No. 1309.

BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1925.

Note on History and Constitution.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these Islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the "Legatio Babylonica" of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the Island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the Islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The Islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship, "The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the Islands on every side. The reef is still called after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him, "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the Islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the Islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers, called "the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first twenty-five years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679, they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only twenty-five shares of land in the Island, was dissolved.

GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I.—General Review.

1. The revenue showed a decrease of £80,663 compared with that for 1924. The expenditure on Public Works in 1925 exceeded that for the previous year by £24,015 and dredging operations were steadily maintained. The number of tourists who visited the Islands was much about the same as that recorded for 1924. There was an increase in the number of births but the recorded deaths were fewer.

The volume of legislation for the year under review was greater than that for the previous year.

2. High prices continued to prevail but the progress of constructional work was maintained.

3. The Colony again participated in the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley and had its own pavilion where dioramas, a relief map of the Colony, specimens of local produce, souvenirs, etc., were displayed.

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II.—Financial.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue for the year 1925 was £248,476, and the expenditure £312,283; the corresponding figures for 1924 being: for revenue £329,139 and for expenditure £312,969.

The chief revenue of the Colony was derived as usual from Customs duties. The principal items being as follows:—

	£
Ad valorem 10 per cent.	89,110
Surtax on 10 per cent.	15,316
Cigars and cigarettes	9,182
Malt liquors	8,129
Rum	9,995
Spirits	19,519
Export duty on spirits...	5,051
Wine	2,121
Tobacco	2,367

Amongst other receipts the following may be noted:—

	£
Postal Revenue	34,368
Light dues	5,986
Fees of office	3,774

Reimbursements to Government:—

	£
Hospital fees	5,042
Miscellaneous	10,364

The following is a comparative table of revenue and expenditure from 1917 to 1925 inclusive:—

	Revenue. £	*Expenditure.* £
1917	100,447	105,867
1918	91,645	90,684
1919	119,091	107,240
1920	219,753	186,470
1921	201,382	237,492
1922	214,082	220,476
1923	309,916	277,925
1924	329,139	312,969
1925	248,476	312,283

Revenue.

The revenue for 1925 amounted, as shown above, to £248,476, showing a decrease of £80,663 compared with the revenue for 1924. The principal items under which decreases occurred and the extent of the decreases are as follows:—

Customs—	£
Spirits other than rum	72,496
Export tax on spirits	3,417
Ad valorem	16,210

The principal items under which increases occurred and their extent are as follows :—

	£
Customs—	
Fuel oil	1,365
Miscellaneous—	
Fees of office...	405
Light dues	870
Sale of securities for marsh reclamation	2,010
Reimbursements—	
Refund of loans to Savings Bank...	8,182
Miscellaneous...	5,043
Hospital	1,223
Rent and Quit Rent	1,017

The total receipts from Customs duties during 1925 were £174,276, as compared with £273,226 for 1924.

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year under review was £312,283, compared with £312,969 for 1924. Of that total £71,234 came under the head of Personal Emoluments, as compared with £64,426 for 1924.

The principal items of expenditure were as follows :—

	£
Education	16,237
Hospital	15,562
Police	20,054
Post Office	18,280
Revenue Department	10,242
Trade Development Board	39,531
Works Department	121,815

Increases in expenditure, 1925, over that for 1924 occurred chiefly under the following heads :—

	£
Post Office	3,998
Public Health	1,523
Lunatic Asylum	1,284
Works Department	27,937

Minor increases occurred under nearly every other heading.

Decreases in expenditure, as compared with 1924, occurred under the following headings :—

	£
Immigrant Labour Board	600
Miscellaneous	32,195
Trade Development Board	6,452

The various increases are accounted for as follows :—

Post Office :—Increase in personal emoluments and inclusion of Savings Bank Expenditure.

Public Health :—General increase under various heads.

Lunatic Asylum :—Due to furnishing new wing.

Works Department :—General increase under various heads, and loan of £12,000 to Riddles Bay Golf Club.

The decreases are due to the following causes :—

Immigrant Labour Board :—Decrease in immigration.

Miscellaneous :—Investment of £30,000 in Reserve Fund for 1924.

Trade Development Board :—Decrease in steamship subsidy.

Assets and Liabilities.

The liabilities of the Colony, apart from funded debt, totalled at the end of 1925 £36,783 10s. 11d. on account of inconvertible £1 notes issued during the war. The assets totalled £190,927 7s. 5d. made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
In hands of Crown Agents :—			
Credit under Act. No. 49, 1921	5,000	0	0
Reserve Fund created under the authority of The Bermuda Investment Acts, 1921, No. 58, and 1923, No. 36. Nominal value of stock...	102,132	16	8
Superannuation Fund, Nominal value of stock	25,267	5	4
Investments made under the authority of the Government Notes Redemption Act, 1915. Nominal value of stock	45,504	7	11
St. David's Island Bridge Investment account. Nominal value of stock	1,022	17	6
Debenture from the Riddles Bay Golf and Country Club, Ltd., for loan under authority of Act No. 29, 1925	12,000	0	0
	£190,927	7	5

Public Debt.

The Public Debt in 1925 was £45,000, being an amount raised in 1920 for the liquidation of certain liabilities incurred during the war, redeemable at par in 1950. The nominal value of the stock representing investments in the Sinking Fund on the 31st December, 1924, was £20,060 0s. 5d. The stock in this loan is for the most part held in the Colony.

III.—Commercial.

The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1925 was £1,491,061, as compared with £2,261,275, in 1924, and £2,376,201 in 1923. The total value of imports and exports from 1916 to 1925 inclusive are as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1916	734,799	139,825
1917	674,493	207,724
1918	692,742	139,825
1919	792,683	208,708
1920	1,414,250	265,868*
1921	1,340,240	224,626*
1922	1,266,696	233,296
1923	1,882,401	493,800
1924	1,815,023	446,252
1925	1,325,041	166,020

* Includes £20,000 in specie.

Imports.

The total imports, as compared with those for 1924, are made up as follows :—

	1924.	1925.
	£	£
From the United Kingdom ...	666,316	384,044
„ the Dominion of Canada...	331,397	244,460
„ the British West Indies ...	25,627	19,233
„ India	418	470
„ the United States of America...	790,809	674,240
„ Cuba	357	1,535
„ Teneriffe	99	90
„ Germany	—	969

The following are the largest items forming the imports :—

	£		£
Boots and Shoes ...	23,809	Oats	41,338
Butter	36,910	Kerosene oil ...	18,829
Beef	63,207	Smoked meats ...	50,464
Bran	25,318	Potatoes	20,146
Canned goods ...	26,223	Sugar	19,713
Clothing	39,512	Woollen goods ...	34,114
Cotton goods ...	53,075	Cigarettes	17,171
Electrical goods ...	25,863	Coal	13,340
Fancy goods ...	128,052	Fresh fruit... ...	22,929
Flour	39,569	Malt liquor... ...	27,793
Groceries	33,694	Whiskey	44,358
Hardware	43,666	Confectionery ...	15,061
Jewellery	14,794	Fuel oil	29,028
Lumber	18,737	Preserved fish ...	14,469

Exports.

The total value of exports for 1925 was £166,020 (a decrease compared with 1924 of £280,232), made up as follows :—

	1924.	1925.
	£	£
To the United Kingdom ...	9,872	10,892
,, ,, Dominion of Canada ...	26,163	5,028
,, ,, British West Indies ...	22,181	9,638
,, ,, United States of America	199,177	140,462
,, St. Pierre, Miquelon ...	188,859	—

The chief articles of export, with their declared value, were as follows :—

	£
Empty oil barrels	18,599
Lily bulbs	19,441
Empty casks	11,582
Onions	6,082
Potatoes	72,895
Vegetables	34,292

Direction of Trade.

The sources of imports during 1925, as compared with 1924, are shown in the following statement :—

	1924.	1925.
	£	£
From United Kingdom ...	666,316	384,044
,, Canada	331,397	244,460
,, Other British Possessions	26,045	19,703
,, Foreign Countries ...	791,265	676,834
	£1,815,023	£1,325,041

The largest items of imports from the United Kingdom were the following :—

	£		£
Clothing	30,600	Whiskey	27,306
Cotton goods ...	27,990	Wine	10,407
Fancy goods ...	72,304	Cement	5,210
Oilmen's stores ...	7,865	Confectionery ...	5,499
Woollen goods ...	27,717	Hardware	5,437
Bicycles	4,248	Jewellery	6,697
Cigarettes	13,667	Stationery	4,830
Gin	4,640	Tea	4,046
Malt liquor... ...	26,756		

The principal imports from Canada were :—

	£		£
Butter	29,067	Flour	29,397
Bran	16,710	Hay	8,616
Box material ...	5,929	Oats	39,379
Cheese	7,871	Potatoes	12,156
Preserved fish ...	10,697		

The total value of imports from the British West Indies amounted to £19,233, of which the following formed the chief items :—

	£
Cigars	3,028
Fresh fruit	4,534
Fuel oil	4,197
Rum	3,636

Imports from foreign countries were chiefly from the United States of America, the principal items being :—

	£		£
Beef	57,090	Hardware	34,916
Building material...	10,342	Lumber	14,924
Boots and shoes ...	17,087	Kerosene oil ...	18,829
Canned goods ...	18,360	Smoked meats ...	45,876
Cotton goods ...	24,937	Sugar	19,017
Electric goods ...	21,052	Coal	13,340
Fancy goods ...	48,135	Fresh fruit... ...	15,421
Groceries	27,347	Fuel oil	24,831

AGRICULTURE.

The year under review was one of small crops and low prices generally for most exported produce. Lily bulbs alone were in increased quantity, and prices were maintained with respect to bulbs and potatoes. The prices for onions, however, exceeded those of recent years.

The quantities of produce (excluding lily bulbs) exported during the last five years were as follows :—

1921	470,225 bushels.
1922	379,082 ,,
1923	318,761 ,,
1924	416,604 ,,
1925	313,280 ,,

The estimated local values of the following products exported during 1925 are :—

	£
Vegetables to United States	83,000
,, ,, Canada	4,500
,, ,, West Indies	2,500
Lily bulbs (chiefly to United States) ...	14,500

The export of local produce (other than lily bulbs) to the United States forms 92·7 of the total exported.

The following table shows the quantities of the principal products exported during the past five years.

Year.	*Onions.*	*Potatoes*	*Green Vegetables.*	*Lily bulbs.*
	Bushels.	Barrels.	Bushels.	Cases.
1921 ...	49,455	58,955	263,649	936
1922 ...	70,874	41,999	191,806	1,604
1923 ...	35,176	33,604	193,974	3,116
1924 ...	41,848	35,254	280,745	3,539
1925 ...	21,170	23,488	216,891	4,040

The Farmers' Market has not attracted more vendors but the quantity and variety of the produce offered for sale has increased, and an important benefit has been the increased general demand for locally-grown farm produce.

The annual Agricultural Exhibition continues to grow in value and interest. The attendance for three days in 1925 almost equalled the record of 12,000 persons in 1924. The number of entries was 3,723, compared with 3,433 in 1924.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review entered and cleared was 2,749,780 tons, a decrease of 8,526 tons as compared with 1924.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

	British.		
	Steam. Tons.	*Sail.* Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
Entered	1,177,534	1,285	1,178,819
Cleared...	1,186,630	2,033	1,188,663
Total British Shipping			2,367,482

	Foreign.		
	Steam. Tons.	*Sail.* Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
Entered	182,752	11,858	194,610
Cleared	174,441	13,247	187,688
Total Foreign Shipping			382,298

The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is shown in the following table :—

	British.	Total.
1921	1,210,649	2,387,797
1922	1,737,141	2,178,562
1923	2,418,706	2,849,479
1924	2,358,159	2,758,306
1925	2,367,482	2,749,780

Tourist Trade.

About 26,190 " tourists " visited the Colony during 1925, showing a small increase of 123 over the number for the preceding year. Considering the period January to April inclusive and the month of December the winter season, and the period May to November inclusive the summer season, it is estimated that 13,307 tourists visited the Islands during the winter, as against 12,883 during the summer. The number of arrivals

during the month of August exceeded that of the same month in any previous year. This all indicates apparently that the Colony is becoming more and more a popular "all-year-round" resort.

The tourist traffic is recognized to be one of the most important sources of revenue, and the sum of £34,831 was voted by the Colony during the year to assist the Trade Development Board in encouraging and developing it. Of this sum £20,000 was expended on steamship subsidies, the remainder being almost exclusively spent on advertising and the entertainment of visitors.

Currency and Banking.

The rate of sterling exchange greatly improved during the year, parity being reached in May. The average exchange on Halifax and New York was 1·25 per cent. For customs purposes the dollar was accepted at $4·80 to the pound, regardless of the actual market value, and similarly the normal par rate in the case of all foreign countries was accepted.

Steamship Communications.

The contract existing with Messrs. Furness, Withy & Company required that Company to maintain the steamships "Fort Victoria" and "Fort St. George" on the New York-Bermuda route on a schedule providing for bi-weekly sailings by the two ships during the months of January to April inclusive, and weekly sailings during the summer months. This contract proved of inestimable value to the farming community, providing, as the season required, appropriate cold storage facilities for the transportation of fresh vegetables to the New York market. The benefit was also manifest in the continued healthy condition of the tourist trade.

The steamers of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company continued to maintain a regular fortnightly passenger and freight service with Halifax, Nova Scotia and the West Indies, while the R.M.S.P. "Araguaya" maintained a weekly service with New York during January to April inclusive.

A tri-weekly passenger and freight service between Montreal, Canada, and Bermuda, Bahamas, Jamaica and British Honduras was maintained by the Canadian Government Merchant Marine, and during the year a fortnightly freight service was operated by the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company.

Direct passenger services between England and Bermuda were maintained by Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Ltd., and the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, and a freight service was maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

IV.—Post Office.

There are nineteen post offices and sub-post offices throughout the Islands, with two deliveries a day of local mails. Mails to and from Hamilton and Ireland Island are provided for by contract made by the Board of Trade. There was a general development and increase in every branch of the Department.

	£	s.	d.
Total revenue	**35,841**	**12**	**3**
Total expenditure	**14,704**	**12**	**0**
Profit of Revenue over Expenditure ...	**£21,137**	**0**	**3**

There was an increase in revenue and a decrease in expenditure, and the profit for the year was £1,546 10s. more than that for 1924.

The chief item of revenue was, as in 1924, derived from the sale of postage stamps, the amount being £32,840, which exceeded the sales in 1924 by £658.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure for the past five years :—

Year.	*Revenue.*			*Expenditure.*			*Profit.*		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1921 ...	**24,262**	**11**	**8**	**9,164**	**2**	**10**	**15,098**	**8**	**10**
1922 ...	**29,147**	**3**	**4**	**12,969**	**13**	**5**	**16,177**	**9**	**11**
1923 ...	**33,376**	**2**	**8**	**13,467**	**18**	**3**	**19,908**	**4**	**5**
1924 ...	**34,944**	**13**	**4**	**15,354**	**3**	**1**	**19,590**	**10**	**3**
1925 ...	**35,841**	**12**	**3**	**14,704**	**12**	**0**	**21,137**	**0**	**3**

Savings Bank.

At the end of the year the total number of open accounts was 3,739, as compared with 3,611 in 1924, an increase of 128.

The amount to the credit of depositors was £74,603 18s. 5d., as compared with £72,758 10s. in 1924, an increase of £1,845 8s. 5d.

The rate of interest paid by the Savings Bank is 2½ per cent. per annum.

The invested funds at the end of 1925 amounted to £96,917 1s. 1d., and cash in hand, £896 7s. 5d., making the total assets of the Bank £97,813 8s. 6d. The liabilities of the Bank were £77,212 14s. (£74,603 18s. 5d. being due to depositors, and £2,608 15s. 7d. due to the Colonial Treasury).

Statements of Deposits and Withdrawals, 1924–1925.

Deposits.		Withdrawals.	
1924.	**1925.**	**1924.**	**1925.**
£34,880 19 2	**£30,313 17 0**	**£28,532 0 9**	**£30,173 12 6**

V.—Vital Statistics.

Births.

The total civilian population on the 31st December, 1925, was estimated to be 27,741. (White :—Males 6,845, Females 6,781; coloured :—Males 6,752, Females 7,363.) The total population on that date, including Naval personnel and tourists, was estimated at 30,157.

The number of living births registered in 1925 was as follows :—

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
White	117	106	223
Coloured	271	253	524
Total	388	359	747

The living birth-rate among the civilian population was 26·9 per thousand, being 16·3 among the white and 37·1 among the coloured population. The total rate, including still-births, was 27·9 per thousand. The number of still-births recorded was 29 (white, 5, coloured, 24), being 3·7 per hundred (white, 2·1, coloured, 4·3). The number of illegitimate births, including still-births, numbered 154 out of 753 civilian births, equivalent to the rate of 20·4 per cent. (white, 3·8, coloured, 26·6).

Marriages.

The total number of marriages was 189 (white, 76, coloured, 107, mixed, 6). The marriage-rate per thousand was 6·5 (white, 5·1, coloured, 7·5).

Deaths.

The number of deaths, excluding still-births, in 1925 was 310, made up as follows :—

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
White	56	42	98
Coloured	119	93	212
	175	135	310

The death-rate was 7·01 per thousand for the white, and 16·7 for the coloured population.

VI.—Public Health.

The general health of the community was good. The following number of cases of infectious diseases were reported

during the year, compared with the numbers for 1923 and 1924 :—

	1923.	1924.	1925.
Scarlet fever	52	65	2
Typhoid fever	44	33	28
Para typhoid	—	—	1
Measles	9	33	3
Chicken-pox	10	50	20
Diphtheria...	1	29	17
Tuberculosis	—	—	3
Leprosy	1	1	1
Whooping-cough	13	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	2
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	—	—	1
Cerebro spinal meningitis...	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	3
Total	130	211	82

VII.—Public Works.

Labour conditions continued, as in last year, to improve.

Work on road making exceeded that in all previous years, and the record is largely attributable to two motor-lorries which were employed at the beginning of the second half of the year. The cost of cartage was thereby reduced by over 20 per cent.

	£
Votes in the Appropriation Act for the year amounted to	102,205
to which was added supplementary votes and sums under Special Resolves amounting to ...	21,091
making a total of	123,296
Total amount expended	101,420
leaving an unexpended balance of	£21,876

The amount expended therefore, represents 82·25 per cent. of the total votes, compared with 80·28 per cent. in 1924, and 81·71 per cent. in 1923.

	Appropriation.	Expenditure.
	£	£
Recurrent Works	31,190	29,422
Extraordinary Works ...	92,106	71,997

Of the Recurrent Works the largest item of expenditure occurred under General Repairs to Roads, on which £20,073 were spent.

The largest items under Extraordinary Works, with the amounts expended under each, were as follows :—

	£
Channel Works	22,942
General Hospital	8,147
Purchase of lands	6,537
Extension of Lunatic Asylum ...	4,170
Erection of Aquarium	3,047

Amongst the more important Public Works dealt with during the year were the following :—

1. Completion of Cenotaph, which was unveiled on the 6th May.
2. Completion of Medical Unit and Clinic and Laboratory at the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital.
3. Completion of renovation of Sessions House (House of Assembly Room, and north-eastern wing).
4. Commencement of erection of Aquarium at the Flatts.
5. Completion of new western wing at the Lunatic Asylum for better-class female patients.
6. The improvement and widening of the Pitts Bay Road leading into Hamilton.
7. Church Street extension works.
8. Preliminary work in connection with reclaiming the marshes.

Dredging Works.

The dredger " King George " was worked for 219 days out of a total of 302 working days.

Of the 219 days' employment, 43 were occupied in private work for the Corporation of Hamilton and St. Georges and the Bermuda Develcpment Company, and repairs at H.M. Dockyard, boiler cleaning, holidays, etc., accounted for the remainder.

In addition, 742 hours overtime were worked, making on a 9 hour day basis a total of 302 working days.

The total amount of material removed, compared with 1923 and 1924, was as follows :—

	1923. *Tons.*	1924. *Tons.*	1925. *Tons.*
Rock	107,310	138,840	92,440
Sand	100,600	95,550	71,300
Total ...	207,910	234,390	163,740

The rock-breaker was employed for 222 days during the year.

	£
The cost of operation of the dredger was ...	15,377
and of the rock-breaker	6,854

VIII.—Legislative.

There were 52 Acts passed during the year under review, amongst the more important of which were the following :—

The St. David's Island Bridge Act, providing for the accumulation of funds to defray the cost of the bridge connecting St. David's Island to St. George's Island.

The Aquarium Act, providing for the erection of equipment of an Aquarium.

The Riddles Bay Golf and Country Club Act, providing for the loan from the Treasury of £12,000 to the Riddles Bay Golf and Country Club for the improvements for the Golf Course and Club.

The Marsh Reclamation Act, providing for the reclamation of the several marshes in the Colony.

The Imperial Preference Act, ratifying the Trade Agreement between Canada and the various West Indian Colonies and Bermuda, and providing for the Imperial Preferential Tariff.

The Wireless Telegraphy and Signalling Act, amending and consolidating the law relating to Wireless Telegraphy.

The Dogs Act, providing for the registration of dogs.

The Dangerous Drugs Act, amending the law with respect to the importation, exportation, manufacture, sale and use of opium and other dangerous drugs.

IX.—Immigration and Emigration Statistics.

Immigrants subject to Immigration Law ...	70
Immigrants and others not subject to Immigration Law	298
The number of emigrants was	260

	Arrivals.	Departures.
First-class passengers	27,307	26,406
Second and third-class passengers	1,259	1,240

Immigration under Immigrant Labour Board.

The following figures relate to immigrants imported through the agency of the Immigrant Labour Board during the year :—

A total of 79 immigrants were imported (men, 24, women, 40, and children, 15). Since the formation of the Immigrant Labour Board at the beginning of 1922 the total of 1,128 immigrants were imported through the Board up to the end of 1925. Of the 79 immigrants imported during the year,

61 came from England.
18 ,, ,, the Azores.

They consisted for the most part of labourers, artisans and domestic servants. These figures are included in the tables given above relating to immigrants.

X.—Meteorological.

The following are the chief figures :—

Mean atmospheric pressure	29·974 in.
Mean maximum temperature... ...	70·5°
Highest temperature	90·4° (July).
Lowest temperature	48·8° (January).
Mean relative humidity	81 per cent.
Number of days' rain	193
Wettest month	February (9·15 in.)
Driest month	June (0·97 in.)
Average rainfall 1916–1925	49·96 in.
Total rainfall for 1925	66·26 in.

XI.—Education.

At the end of the year under review there were 29 schools under the direction of the Board of Education. The average enrolment for the year was 3,156 and the average attendance 2,557, a decrease of 31 in the enrolment and an increase of 76 in the average attendance, as compared with the previous year. These returns refer only to aided schools receiving grants from the Government, there being a few other private schools whose administration does not come under the Board.

The general grant for the year was £11,800, of which £11,738 was expended, £5,020 being grants to vested schools and £5,967 to non-vested schools.

A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of two years. The annual value of this Scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £125, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these Islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these Islands."

Bermuda is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations which are held annually in December. The following table relates to the Cambridge Local Examinations for the years 1924 and 1925 :—

	1924.		1925.	
Examination.	*Sat for Exam.*	*Passed.*	*Sat for Exam.*	*Passed.*
Preliminary	36	14	12	2
Junior	33	17	36	21
School Certificates ...	20	12	17	7
Totals ...	89	43	65	30

For 1924, therefore, the percentage of successful candidates was 48·31, and in 1925 the percentage was 46·15.

XII.—King Edward VII Memorial Hospital.

This institution, to which no reference has hitherto been made in these reports, was opened in July, 1920, the progress of construction work having been made during the years of the war. Its management is under the direction of a Board of Governors appointed by the Governor. The Medical Staff is also appointed by the Governor. The direct management of the Hospital is under the Medical Superintendent. The nursing staff consists of a matron, five sisters, about twelve nurses and a number of pupil nurses and probationers. The domestic staff is under the management of the House-keeper and Dietitian.

Analysis of Patients Treated.

White.								Coloured.			
Private Rooms.				General Wards.				General Wards.			
Resident.		Non-Resident.		Resident.		Non-Resident.		Resident.		Non-Resident.	
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
56	87	22	31	77	53	13	3	85	71	1	—
143		53		130		16		156		1	
196				146				157			
342								157			

The number of " free " cases treated in hospital during the year was 43 (white, 19, coloured, 24). The number of cases exempted by law from payment of hospital fees was 5 (white, 3, coloured, 2). The number of maternity cases treated was 164 (white, 151, coloured, 13). The general average stay of all patients in the hospital was 19·76 days. Ninety-seven X-ray examinations were made during the year.

The total Government grants to the hospital, exclusive of those for constructional work, amounted to £16,375, of which £15,477 was spent. The items of expenditure comprised, *inter alia*, the following :—

	£
Provisions	4,596
Salaries and wages	3,625
Domestic maintenance	2,240
Surgery and drugs	1,396
Heat and light	1,112

The fees paid by patients amounted to £5,029. Fees owing and not paid by patients amounted to £1,667.

Average Costs.

Item.	*1925.*			*1924.*			*1923.*		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Per diem	35	10	8¼	27	8	1½	24	19	10¾
Per patient		18	5¼		18	9½		17	10¼
Per bed		14	9½		17	1½		15	7½
Food per caput per diem ...		3	0½		3	1¾		2	11¾
Number of patient-days ...		14,033			10,690			10,215	

JOHN TRIMINGHAM,

Assistant Colonial Secretary.

BERMUDA,

August, 1926.

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BERMUDA.

REPORT FOR 1926.

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BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1926.

Note on History and Constitution.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1515, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the " Legatio Babylonica " of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island " La Barmuda " in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship " The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year, and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group after him, " The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their Charter, so as to include the islands within their dominion, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers, called " the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first twenty-five years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679, they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only twenty-five shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Government and Constitution.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council, consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

I.—General Review.

The revenue showed an increase of £74,335 compared with that for 1925, and the expenditure was less than that for 1925 by £21,074.

The number of tourists visiting the Colony during the year exceeded that in any previous year, the total reaching about 27,000.

The volume of legislation for the year was slightly less than that for the previous year.

The Colony participated as usual in the Canadian National Exhibition held at Toronto.

II.—Financial.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The total revenue for the year 1926 was £314,298, and the expenditure £291,209; the corresponding figures for 1925 being for revenue £248,476 and for expenditure £312,283.

The chief revenue of the Colony was derived, as in former years, from Customs duties, the total of such duties amounting to £195,705, as compared with £174,276 in 1925.

The principal sources of revenue other than Customs duties were: Post Office and Stamp Taxes, £34,532; and reimbursements to Government, £28,408.

Revenue.

The revenue for 1926 amounted to £314,298, showing an increase of £74,335 compared with the revenue for 1925. In the revenue for 1926, however, the following items are included, viz. :—

	£
Sale of Securities from Surplus Funds for Marsh Reclamation	31,262
Refund of Loans to Savings Bank	10,044

Expenditure.

The total expenditure for the year under review was £291,209, compared with £312,283 for 1925, a decrease of £21,074.

Out of the total expenditure of £291,209 for 1926, £67,731 came under the head of Personal Emoluments, and £223,478 under the head of Other Charges.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

The following is a statement of the Assets and Liabilities on 31st December, 1926 :—

Assets.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance in the Public Treasury on 31st December, 1926	14,305	12	2
In the hand of Crown Agents :— Credit under Act 49, 1924	5,000	0	0
Reserve Fund created under authority of The Bermuda Investment Act, 1921, No. 58, and 1923, No. 36. Nominal value of Stock	70,840	17	7
Superannuation Fund. Nominal value of Stock	26,107	18	1
Investments made under the authority of The Government Notes Redemption Act, 1915. Nominal value of Stock ...	47,886	7	0
St. David's Island Bridge Investment Account. Nominal value of Stock ...	1,074	5	0
Debenture from the Riddell's Bay Golf and Country Club, Ltd., for loan under authority of Act of 1925, No. 29 ...	12,000	0	0
Carried forward	£177,214	19	10

				£	s.	d.
Brought forward				177,214	19	10
Savings Bank :—						
Investments held. Nominal value of Stock	£103,785	4	10			
Cash in hands of Crown Agents and Manager ...	820	9	3			
Balance of advances made to Savings Bank on account of Interest, &c. ...	849	2	7	105,454	16	8
				£282,669	16	6

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Bermuda Government £1 Notes issued under the authority of The Government Notes Redemption Act, 1927 (No. 9)...	38,000	0	0
Loan from Crown Agents on Security of Reserve Fund	10,000	0	0
Savings Bank : Amount due Depositors in Savings Bank	78,740	16	1
	£126,740	16	1

PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt in 1926 was £50,000, incurred to meet certain public liabilities which could not conveniently be met from current revenue. The nominal value of the stock representing investments in the Sinking Fund on the 31st December, 1926, was £21,507 6*s*. 9*d*.

III.—Commercial.

The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1926 was £1,644,377, as compared with £1,491,061 in 1925 and £2,261,275 in 1924.

IMPORTS.

The total values of the imports were as follows :—

	£
From the United Kingdom	367,521
From British Colonies	272,245
From Foreign Countries	765,058
	£1,404,824

EXPORTS.

The total value of the exports for 1926 was £239,553 (an increase of £73,533 compared with 1925), made up as follows :—

	£
To the United Kingdom	9,275
To British Colonies	32,118
To Foreign Countries	198,160
	£239,553

The chief articles of export, with their declared values, were as follows :—

	£
Empty oil barrels	16,876
Lily bulbs	14,294
Potatoes	80,665
Other vegetables	89,046
Whiskey	15,160

AGRICULTURE.

The year 1926 is to be included among the good farming years. Production and prices were, on the whole, good. The degree of prosperity which came to the farming community was reflected in increased general prosperity. The situation was one which spoke in no uncertain tone of the dependence of the Colony on agriculture. A good tourist year will not alone bring general prosperity, for the previous tourist season had been a good one but was coupled with a poor agricultural year and local business was depressed. The year 1926 was a happy one for both industries, and there were unmistakable signs of increased wealth shared by the whole community. In making comparison between the tourist and farming businesses it should be remembered that the capital invested in the latter is almost entirely local capital, and, further, whatever profits come to the farmer are spent within the Colony.

The quantity of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported during 1926 was 426,896 bushels, which is about the average of the last decade.

The gross value of agricultural exports was £280,835.

Agricultural exports, exclusive of lily bulbs and buds, were divided among the four markets in the following proportions : United States 92.1 per cent., Canada 6.4 per cent., and British West Indies 1.5 per cent. The cost of marketing that portion of the crop sold in the United States was £86,260, or 34.1 per cent.

Estimated number of acres under cultivation :—

	Acres.
Potatoes	900
Miscellaneous vegetables	1,000
Onions	140
Bananas	75
Lily bulbs (chiefly *L. Harrisii*)	40
	2,155

Tomatoes.—Exports of this vegetable have increased as follows :—

	Bushels.
1924	1,048
1925	624
1926	3,081

The crop is sold in Canada.

An attempt is being made to produce in California onion seed specially suited to Bermuda. The seed will be grown from bulbs selected in Bermuda.

In co-operation with the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Inc., Yonkers, New York, and the Nebraska College of Agriculture, experiments are being conducted to ascertain the effects in Bermuda of the treatment of dormant seed potatoes by methods developed by Dr. F. E. Denny of the former institution.

Under the provisions of The Shipment of Produce Act, 1926, the regulation of the export of produce is attempted.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 3,188,913 tons, an increase of 439,133 tons as compared with 1925.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

British.

	Steam. Tons.	*Sail. Tons.*	*Total. Tons.*
Entered	1,225,803	1,498	1,227,301
Cleared	1,236,719	1,957	1,238,676
Total British Shipping			2,465,977

Foreign.

	Steam. Tons.	*Sail. Tons.*	*Total. Tons.*
Entered	349,343	9,313	358,656
Cleared	356,262	8,018	364,280
Total foreign shipping			722,936

The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is shown in the following table :—

	British.	*Total.*
1922	1,737,141	2,178,562
1923	2,418,706	2,849,479
1924	2,358,159	2,758,306
1925	2,367,482	2,749,780
1926	2,465,977	3,188,913

Tourist Trade.

The number of " tourists " visiting the Colony during 1926 exceeded that of any previous year, the total reaching about 27,215. This continued increase is considered highly indicative of the increasing popularity of the Islands as an all-year-round resort, especially as the last three months showed a decrease of over 550 below that of the preceding year, owing to the general depressio of ocean travel from the United States of America about this time. Considering the period January to April inclusive and the month of December the winter season, and the period May to November inclusive the summer season, it is estimated that 15,451 tourists visited the Islands during the winter and 11,864 during the summer. The number of arrivals during the month of March exceeded that of any month during any previous year.

The tourist trade is recognised to be the most important source of revenue to the Colony and the sum of £34,831 was voted during the year to assist the Trade Development Board in encouraging and developing it. Of this sum, £20,000 was expended on steamship subsidies, the remainder being almost exclusively spent on advertising and for the entertainment of visitors.

Currency and Banking.

Sterling exchange was at par almost throughout the entire year, the average rate on Halifax and New York being below one quarter of one per cent. For Customs purposes, the dollar was accepted at $4.80 to the pound, regardless of the actual market value, and similarly the normal par rate in the case of all foreign countries was accepted.

Steamship Communications.

The contract existing with Messrs. Furness, Withy & Company required that Company to maintain the steamships " Fort Victoria " and " Fort St. George " on the New York-Bermuda route on a schedule providing for bi-weekly sailings by the two ships during the months of January to April inclusive, weekly sailings of the " Fort Victoria " during May, five sailings of the " Fort Victoria " and " Fort St. George " during June, six sailings

of the two ships during the month of July, bi-weekly sailings during August to October inclusive, and six sailings of the two ships during November and December.

This schedule proved of inestimable value to the agricultural community, providing, as the season required, adequate refrigeration facilities for the transportation of fresh vegetables to the New York market. The benefit was also manifest in the continued prosperous condition of the tourist trade.

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company continued to operate a regular fortnightly passenger and freight steamship service with Halifax, Nova Scotia, Bermuda, and the West Indies, as well as to operate their S.S. " Araguaya " on a weekly schedule on the New York-Bermuda route during January to April inclusive and two sailings of this ship in December.

A tri-weekly passenger and freight service between Montreal, Canada, and Bermuda, Bahamas, Jamaica, and British Honduras was maintained by the Canadian Government Merchant Marine Limited.

Direct passenger service between England and Bermuda was maintained by Messrs. Elders and Fyffes Limited and the Pacific Steam Navigation Company, and a freight service was maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

The number of cruising steamers including a stop at Bermuda in their itineraries showed a marked increase over previous years.

IV.—Post Office.

There are nineteen post offices and sub-post offices throughout the Islands, with two deliveries a day of local mails. Mails to and from Hamilton and Ireland Island are provided for by contract made by the Board of Trade.

	£	s.	d.
Total revenue	35,319	17	8
Total expenditure	14,999	18	1
Profit of revenue over expenditure ...	£20,319	19	7

There was a small decrease in revenue and an increase in expenditure, and the profit for the year was £817 less than that for 1925.

The chief item of revenue was, as in 1925, derived from the sale of postage stamps, the amount being £34,740, which exceeded the sales in 1925 by £1,[illegible]60.

Savings Bank.

At the end of the year the total number of open accounts was 3,733, as compared with 3,739 in 1925, a decrease of 6.

The amount to the credit of depositors on the 31st December was £78,740 16*s*. 1*d*., compared with £74,603 18*s*. 5*d*. at the end of 1925, an increase of £4,136 17*s*. 8*d*.

The rate of interest paid by the Savings Bank is 2½ per cent. per annum.

The invested funds at the end of 1926 amounted to £103,785 4*s*. 10*d*.

The deposits and withdrawals compared with 1925 were as follows :—

Deposits.		*Withdrawals.*	
1925.	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1926.*
£30,313 17*s*. 0*d*.	£32,293 10*s*. 3*d*.	£30,173 12*s*. 6*d*.	28,595 12*s*. 1*d*.

V.—Vital Statistics.

The total population on the 31st December, 1926, was estimated to be 30,113, made up as follows :—

Civil population	29,046
Naval and Military employees, &c.	1,067
Total	30,113

The following table shows the details of the total population :—

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
White	8,517	7,096	15,613
Coloured	6,925	7,575	14,500
Total			30,113

Registered Living Births.

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
White	102	100	202
Coloured...	250	238	488
Total			690

The living birth-rate among the civilian population was 23.7 per thousand (12.2 white, 33.7 coloured). The total rate including still births was 24.1 per thousand. Still births numbered 36 (5 white and 31 coloured). Illegitimate births, including still births, numbered 117, equivalent to a rate of 16.3 per cent. (1.5 white and 21.9 coloured).

Marriages.

The total number of marriages was 164 (60 between white people, 103 between coloured, and 1 mixed). The marriage rate per thousand inhabitants was 5.4 (3.8 white and 7.1 coloured). 119 out of the total marriages were solemnized in the Church of England.

DEATHS.

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
White	64	49	113
Coloured	116	86	202
			315

Still births not included in above table : white 7, coloured 32.

The death-rate was 8.2 per thousand white, and 16.1 per thousand coloured.

Infantile Mortality.

The number of deaths of children under one year of age for the past four years was as follows :—

	1923.	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*
White	11	9	6	15
Coloured	51	63	63	69
Total for the year ...	62	72	69	84

The rate per 1,000 living births for the four years above quoted according to colour are :—

	1923.	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*
White	55	40	26·91	73·89
Coloured	110·15	133·19	120·23	142·57
Whole Population ...	95·51	103·15	92·24	122·27

The rate of infantile mortality in England and Wales in 1926 was 70 per 1,000.

VI.—Public Health.

The general health of the community was very good.

VII.—Public Works.

Labour conditions during the year were fairly good.

	£
Votes in the Appropriation Act for the year amounted to	103,930
Supplementary Votes	810
Total	104,740
Total amount expended	84,046
Amount unexpended	£20,694

80.22 per cent. of the total appropriations was expended, compared with a percentage of 82.25 in 1925 and 80.28 in 1924.

Of the Recurrent Works, the largest item of expenditure occurred as in 1925 under General Repairs to Roads, on which £17,463 was spent out of an appropriation of £18,000.

The largest items under Extraordinary Works, with the amounts expended under each, were as follows :—

	£
Channel Works	24,445
New Aquarium	6,844
Isolation Hospital No. 3	4,299
Improvement of Sound View Road, Sandys ...	3,983
Hospital	5,904

Dredging Works.

The dredger " King George " was worked for 257 days, exclusive of 1,046 hours overtime, in the year, compared with 219 days for the previous year.

The amount of material removed by the dredging plant during the year was 183,140 tons, which included work on the Narrows Channel, Town Cut Channel, St. George's Harbour, White's Island Shoal, and shoals in the Great Sound.

The rock-breaker was employed on 283 days, compared with 222 days in 1925.

Marsh Reclamation.

During the year good progress was made with construction work in preparation for carrying out the reclamation of the Pembroke Marshes. Owing to the miners' strike in England the delivery of the necessary machinery was delayed. 45⅓ acres of land for the Recreation Ground, Pembroke Marsh East, were acquired at a cost of £23,170. At the end of the year about 4,600 feet of light rail track were laid and trains were put in operation.

VIII.—Legislative.

There were 46 Acts passed during the year under review, amongst which were the following :—

The Summary Offences and Jurisdiction Act, consolidating and amending the law relating to criminal offences punishable summarily.

The Shipment of Produce Act, providing for the regulating of export of vegetable produce.

The Alien Act, amending and consolidating previous Acts relating to the acquisition of land by aliens.

The Treasury Bills Act, providing for the issue of Treasury Bills.

The Midwives Act, providing for the registration and control of midwives.

IX.—Immigration.

During the year under review the number of immigrants was 470, and of emigrants 229.

The following figures relate to immigrants arriving through the agency of the Immigrant Labour Board :—

A total of 232 immigrants, consisting of 156 men, 46 women, and 30 children, arrived during the year. Of that number, 105 came from Great Britain and 127 from the Azores, compared with 61 from England and 18 from the Azores during 1925. Nearly all of the immigrants from the Azores were farm labourers.

X.—Meteorological.

The following are the chief figures for 1926 :—

Mean atmospheric pressure	...	29.932 inches
Mean maximum temperature	...	71.7°.
Mean hourly velocity of wind	...	10 miles per hour.
Mean relative humidity ...	...	81.
Total amount of rainfall ...	...	70.30 inches.
Difference of rainfall from the average of past 9 years ...	...	13.14 above average.
Rain fell on 165 days of the year.		
Wettest month—November	...	10.10 inches.
Driest month—July ...	...	2.64 inches.
Highest temperature ...	...	91° (30th July).
Lowest temperature ...	...	45.4° (10th March).

XI.—Education.

During the year under review there were 32 schools in receipt of grants from the Board of Education, of which 11 were attended by white and 21 by coloured children. Of these 32 schools, 29 were under the direct control of the Board. The average enrolment at these schools for the year was 3,118, the average attendance 2,532, the percentage of average attendance to average enrolment being 81. Compared with the figures for 1925 the figures show a decrease of 38 in the enrolment and of 25 in the average attendance. These figures refer only to the 29 aided schools directly under the Board, there being 3 other private schools which receive grants but whose administration does not come under the Board.

The general grant for the year 1926 was the same as that for 1925, viz. :—£11,800, of which £11,686 was expended, of which £10,941 were grants to schools.

A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational

institution abroad for a period of two years. The annual value of this Scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £125, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these Islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these Islands."

Bermuda is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December.

XII.—King Edward VII Memorial Hospital.

This institution was opened in July, 1920. Its management is under the direction of a Board of Governors appointed by the Governor, by whom the medical staff is also appointed. The direct management of the Hospital is under the Medical Superintendent. The nursing staff consists of a matron, assistant matron, 5 sisters, 8 nurses, and 15 pupil nurses. The domestic staff, including orderlies, cooks, and maids, is under the management of the housekeeper, assisted by an assistant housekeeper.

The general average stay of all patients in the Hospital was 16.77 days. There were 33 patients remaining in hospital from 1925; 841 cases were admitted, including births in the Hospital, and 33 remained at the end of the year.

Out of the total grants for all services, exclusive of public works, of £17,426 the sum of £16,673 was expended.

JOHN TRIMINGHAM,
Assistant Colonial Secretary.

BERMUDA.
12*th October*, 1927.

(826—21) Wt. 17779—1180 625 12/27 H. St. G. 7/8

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EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926 to May, 1927. Cmd. 2898. 3*d*. (3½*d*.).

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Geophysical Surveying. Report of a Sub-Committee of the Committee of Civil Research. November, 1927. (E.M.B. 6.) 6*d*. (7*d*.).

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IMPERIAL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE PUBLICATIONS.

The Imperial Economic Committee has issued a series of publications on the problems connected with the marketing and preparing for market of foodstuffs produced within the British Empire. The following six volumes are now ready. General Questions, 9*d*. (10*d*.); Meat, 9*d*. (10*d*.); Fruit, 4*s*. 6d. (4*s*. 10*d*.); Dairy Produce, 1*s*. (1*s*. 3*d*.); Fish, 6*d*. (8*d*.); Poultry, Eggs, Honey, 1*s*. (1*s*. 2*d*.).

The Eighth Report of the Committee, "The Functions and Work of the Imperial Economic Committee," 6*d*. (7*d*.). The relationship between the Committee and the Empire Marketing Board is explained in this Report.

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BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1927.

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Geographical and Historical.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the west Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ N. latitude and 64° 51′ W. longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population estimated in 1927 at 30,814. The estimated density of the population is 1,622 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not

known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship "The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group "The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Government and Constitution.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

I.—GENERAL.

The policy of the Executive Government during the period under review was directed largely towards persuading the Legislature to establish a sound system of finance. The attention of this body was drawn to the fact that the time had arrived when it was necessary either to curtail expenditure, raise loans, or increase taxation. The first two solutions were preferred. Expenditure on public works was curtailed and a loan of £20,000 was raised locally in order to balance the budget. Taxation is very light in Bermuda and the revenue is mainly derived from Customs duties—in 1927 this was £196,698 out of a total revenue of £259,943. There is no income tax, no land or property tax, and no estate duties payable on transfer or probate.

General Sir John Asser, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., completed his term as Governor of the Colony in July. He had devoted his services mainly towards the improvement of sanitation, the reclamation of marshes, the beautifying of the Colony by flower growing, the development of the local sale of agricultural products, and the promotion of a railway to solve the question of inland transportation. He was succeeded by Lieut.-General Sir Louis Bols, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O., who arrived in Bermuda on the 2nd of September.

This year was further signalized by the first law passed providing for a contribution towards the Imperial garrison maintained in the islands; the actual amount was based on the numbers in the garrison with provision for a further payment of 2s. 6d. per head of the population, payable in 1930, when final payments will have been completed in respect of a contribution made towards the cost of the Great War.

II.—FINANCE.

The Colony is in a strong financial position in so far as dependance on the tourist traffic can be laid. The public debt amounts to £70,000 only and provision has been made for a sinking fund to take care of this. Some £130,000 is raised by an *ad valorem* import duty of 10 per cent., plus one-tenth of this on goods produced in foreign countries, and £70,000 on specific duties.

The revenue and expenditure for the five years ending on the 31st of December, 1927, have been as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Recurrent Expenditure.*	*Expenditure from Reserves.*
	£	£	£
1923	249,302	237,925	—
1924	251,591	260,969	—
1925	243,425	300,283	—
1926	256,402	260,784	31,663
1927	259,943	268,495	35,847

The revenue derived in certain years from the export duty on spirits is not included in the tabular statement of revenue and expenditure above as it is liable to be misleading. In 1923, 1924, and 1925 the amounts so derived were £77,548, £60,613, and £5,051, respectively, or a total of £143,212. A wise use was made of this windfall. A channel loan of £40,000 was paid off, £69,000 was devoted to the reclamation of marshes, a fine hospital was built up, and channel improvement works were carried out from current revenue. The surplus moneys accumulated did not however suffice for the expansion of expenditure; in 1926 and again in 1927 resort was made to loans in order to balance the budget, as the House of Assembly was unwilling to impose fresh taxation. It was also found necessary in 1927 to curtail the expenditure on public works which were more or less urgently required. The expenditure from Reserves on Marsh Reclamation in 1927 was £35,847, the total expenditure to the end of the year being £65,486. About five acres had then been reclaimed, but the expenditure includes £23,184 for the purchase of land.

There is a Government Note issue of £38,000 out of a total of £40,000 authorized by law. The value of the investments held as security for this liability was £47,886 on the 1st of January, 1927. There is no coin reserve. By a law passed in April (Act 15 of 1927) the Governor-in-Council was empowered to authorize the issue of notes to the value of the investments for redemption. This stood at £50,378 at the end of 1927. During the year, notes of a new design to the nominal value of £150,000 were ordered

in London to replace the existing stock, which was manufactured in the United States in wartime, and to provide for exchanging old and defaced notes.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st of December, 1927, was £137,297. The surplus moneys available for general purposes on this date were £35,495. This included however £13,344, the balance of the proceeds of a loan of £20,000 paid into General Revenue under the authority of the Bermuda Local Loan Act, 1927. The remaining liquid reserves must, as far as it is possible to foresee, be absorbed in Marsh Reclamation works, as it has been the considered policy of the Legislature to devote the reserves accumulated in 1924 and 1925 to this service.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on the 31st of December was £84,568, as against £78,741 and £74,604 in 1926 and 1925 respectively.

The public debt repayable at par in 1950 stood at £70,000 at the end of the year. £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, and the balance in 1927. Under the Bermuda Local Loan Act, 1892, which governs these loans, payments into a sinking fund begin three years from the date of the first issue of stock. The rate of interest is 5 per cent. and the last loan was raised at a premium of £1 8s. per £100. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on the 31st of December was £23,025.

There are two private banks in the Colony—the Bank of Bermuda, Ltd., and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Ltd. The authorised capital in each case is £15,000. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £488,864 19s. 11d. and £427,803 3s. 4d. respectively.

III.—PRODUCTION.

The only industry of the Colony, apart from boat-building on a small scale and fishing for local consumption, is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs for export.

The following table gives the quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported each year from 1924 to 1927, together with an estimate of the net annual value of the crop exported and consumed locally :—

	Quantity.	*Net Bermuda Exports. Value.*	*Consumed locally. Farm Value.*	*Total Value of Crop.*
	Bushels.	£	£	£
1924 ...	416,604	192,000	174,000	366,000
1925 ...	313,280	104,500	166,000	270,500
1926 ...	426,896	190,526	185,000	375,526
1927 ...	371,887	133,128	191,000	324,128

The chief crops and their destination in 1927 were as follows :—

Vegetable.	*Quantity.*	*Country of Destination.*
Potatoes	34,670 barrels	U.S.A.
	28 „	Canada.
	1,374 „	British West Indies.
Celery	54,651 crates	U.S.A.
Parsley	55,619 „	U.S.A.
Carrots	44,833 „	U.S.A.
Kale	7,733 „	U.S.A.
Onions	10,486 „	U.S.A.
	8,042 „	Canada.
	1,042 „	British West Indies.
Tomatoes	16,056 „	Canada.
	132 „	British West Indies.

The total value of the exports to the United States was £198,682, including lily bulbs, of which 5,814 cases were shipped to the value of £13,374. Exports to Canada were valued at £8,421 and to the West Indies at £2,219. The only export to Great Britain was 107 cases of lily bulbs, valued at £2 10s. a case.

The expenditure on the Agricultural Department during the year was £6,894, or £400 less than in 1926. Two members only of the staff, the Director and the Plant Pathologist, had received scientific training out of Bermuda.

The planting is entirely in the hands of small farmers. There are some 17 holdings only of more than 10 acres, the largest being 46½ acres.

There are 314 farmers on the registers of the Department. Of these, 133 are Portuguese, 94 other white races, and 87 coloured.

The total area cultivated was approximately 1,231 acres, of which 422 were farmed by owners or part owners and 809 by tenants.

The number of acres under potatoes in 1927 was 653, green vegetables 298, bananas 84, lilies 76, onions 74, and celery 65.

It has not hitherto been found possible to obtain any reliable statistics regarding the financial standing of the farming community. The majority of the farmers are very reluctant to give information on this point.

It was estimated in 1927 that the farmer received 63 per cent. of the sale value of his crop exported, the balance being taken up in freight and charges.

The average New York prices in 1927 were :—

	s.	d.
Carrots per bushel	6	3
Celery per bushel	11	1
Lettuce per bushel	4	1
Onions per bushel	10	6
Parsley per bushel	6	6
Potatoes per barrel	44	7

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The only trade of any importance in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the great bulk of whom come from America. The majority of visitors arrive in the winter months, from the end of December until the end of April. During this period in 1927 four passenger steamers a week came to Bermuda from New York; two belonging to Messrs. Furness Withy and Co., Ltd., and two to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. The former firm were in receipt of a subsidy at the rate of £20,000 a year. The construction during the course of the year of the 20,000-ton motor vessel "Bermuda," built for Messrs. Furness Withy especially for this trade at a cost of about £1,000,000, was completed. The first-class passenger accommodation on board this luxurious steamer is about 700. The summer season has been increasing steadily in popularity during the last few years; it lasts from July to October. Hotel and steamship rates are lower in summer than in winter.

The management of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. It is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the traffic.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table:—

	Expenditure.	*Tourists.*
	£	
1923	42,628	26,761
1924	45,984	25,653
1925	39,531	26,190
1926	34,904	27,214
1927	36,694	30,816

The expenditure on advertising annually is approximately £8,500 in America, £2,000 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain. Some £4,000 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. The steamer subsidy of £20,000 is included under this head. It has been estimated that the average stay of tourists is 10 days, during which each tourist will spend from £2 a day upwards.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 10s. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 11 per cent. *ad valorem* enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the States or Canada. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1923	1,882,401	493,800
1924	1,815,023	446,252
1925	1,325,041	166,020
1926	1,404,824	239,553
1927	1,532,794	249,958

Imports.

From.	*1927.* £	*1926.* £
United Kingdom	436,801	367,521
British Colonies	296,497	272,245
Foreign Countries	799,496	765,058
	£1,532,794	£1,404,824

The articles in which there is competition with the United States, which supplies practically all imports from foreign countries, are not many in number. Electrical goods, cigarettes, and the faultily-described fancy goods are the most important. There is undoubtedly a good opening for leather ware from the United Kingdom. The bulk of the boots and shoes are imported from the United States of America, and an investigation on this subject is needed.

It should be recognised in discussing this question that the rapid turnover for a retail trader in dealing with America is a strong factor.

Exports.

To.	*1927.* £	*1926.* £
United Kingdom	8,035	9,275
British Colonies	14,383	32,118
Foreign Countries	227,540	198,160
	£249,958	£239,553

CHIEF ARTICLES OF EXPORT.

	1927. £	*1926.* £
Empty Oil Barrels	17,530	16,876
Lily Bulbs	16,772	14,294
Potatoes	97,360	80,665
Other Vegetables	104,136	89,046
Whiskey	500	15,160

General.

Although there has been a gratifying increase in 1927 in the trade with the United Kingdom and Canada, it is too early to say whether this is likely to be continued. It is possible that it may be due to some extent to the fact that 1927 was the first full year in which the Imperial Preference Act of 1925 was in force, relieving all Empire goods of a surtax of one-tenth of the *ad valorem* duty payable on goods imported from other sources. It is not possible to suggest any specific articles, except hardware and boots and shoes, in which British trade might be increased.

Openings for trade and employment in Bermuda.

There is a considerable amount of competition at present in Bermuda among local merchants in the supply of dry and fancy goods, hardware, provisions, and clothing. Those who are established discourage newcomers. A number of reliable commission agents, whose addresses can be supplied on application to the Department of Overseas Trade in London or the Colonial Secretary in Bermuda, are doing business in the Colony. They are agents for the principal British firms in all commodities.

No one is advised to go to Bermuda without a definite opening in prospect, as opportunities are limited.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 3,041,350 tons, a decrease of 147,563 tons compared with 1926.

The following Table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

British.

	Steam. Tons.		*Sail.* Tons.		*Total.* Tons.
Entered	1,232,290	+	1,780	=	1,234,071
Cleared	1,231,188	+	1,636	=	1,232,824
Total British Shipping					2,466,895

Foreign.

	Steam. Tons.		*Sail.* Tons.		*Total.* Tons.
Entered	272,217	+	11,552	=	283,769
Cleared	277,839	+	12,847	=	290,686
Total Foreign Shipping					574,455

Total Tonnage.

1927	British ... 2,466,895	Total ...	3,041,350

In addition to the regular service with New York with from one to four steamers running weekly according to the season, the service with the West Indies and Canada for passengers and freight was maintained at about fortnightly intervals throughout the year by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company and the Canadian Government Merchant Marine. The former withdrew from the service at the end of May.

Direct passenger service was maintained between England and Bermuda by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Limited. The Royal Mail Company and the London Direct Line were mainly responsible for the freight service from the United Kingdom.

Postal.

284 mails were received from overseas and 216 despatched. The volume of business generally is probably greater relatively than that of any other Colony owing to the constant stream of tourists. 83,662 parcels were received. The money-order business amounted to £65,202. Of this, orders to the value of £57,783 were issued in addition to 10,557 postal orders of the value of £5,102.

The transit to London for mails is usually 11 days.

The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire remains at 1d. per ounce or part of an ounce.

Cables and Wireless.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West India Company a line to Jamaica via Turks Islands. The full-rate charges are: New York 1s. 6d., and England 2s. 4d., a word. There is a weekend letter service to Great Britain at a minimum charge of 11s. 8d. (for twenty words).

In 1925 a licence was granted to the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company granting them a monopoly of commercial wireless traffic, the right being reserved to the Government to take over the Station at the end of ten or fifteen years. The Station was completed by the end of 1927 but was not open for traffic. The call sign is G Z H. The system of transmission is Marconi C.W. Valve 25 K.W. The wave-length is to be between 2,750 and 3,000 metres and the range 2,500 miles. There is also a 1.5 K.W. quenched gap set, tuned to 600, 650, 750, and 800 metres for working with ship stations.

Telephones.

There are about 1,450 miles of telephone line owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £8 10s. (residential) to £11 10s. per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

This section does not call for any particular comment. 282 persons were committed to prison during the year, as against 190 in 1926. Of these, 240 were men; 122 (98 in 1926) were first offenders, seven (10 in 1926) were sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more, and 144 (85 in 1926) for three months or less.

770 persons were prosecuted, of whom 13 were discharged, 716 punished on summary conviction, and 41 dealt with by the Supreme Court. Of the latter, 30 were for offences against property, and 11 for offences against the person. There were no cases of manslaughter.

1927 was marked by the passage of five Acts dealing with the consolidation of the laws relating to Police, Prisons, Juries, Establishment, and Superannuation.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The heaviest item of expenditure under this head for a number of years has been on the cost of widening and deepening the approaches to the Colony by sea. £298,200 has been spent on this object since 1910. During the five years ending on the 31st of December, 1927, the amount of £117,109 was expended. The Narrows Ship Channel was widened to 450 feet and deepened to 31 feet throughout.

During the three years 1925 to 1927, 22 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Public Works Department has been on dredging; 20.3 per cent. on the reclamation of marshes, and 57.7 per cent. on general works.

The work on the King Edward VII Memorial Hospital and its extensions was practically completed during the year at a total cost since 1914 of £54,046.

£13,535 had been expended on the new Aquarium completed in 1927, and £6,246 on a new school for coloured children. The estimate for the total cost of the latter is £18,000, and it will provide for 1,000 scholars.

The expenditure on the maintenance of the roads was £18,972 and on construction £957. The mileage of the roads is about 105, of which 36 are macadamized.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Bermuda rejoices in a very healthy climate, although the humidity in the air renders it somewhat relaxing in the summer months. As stated by the Director of the Health Department in his report for 1927, it is sufficiently north to be free from tropical diseases and sufficiently remote from the great centres of population in the temperate zone to be spared the severe respiratory diseases so prevalent there.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the *anopheles* has never existed in the islands, so they have always been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

A hospital for infectious diseases was opened on the 1st of January, 1927. The admissions were few—11 cases of diphtheria, four of mumps, two of chicken pox, and one of scarlet fever.

A venereal diseases clinic, established at the general hospital in 1926, gave 522 treatments to 51 cases in 1927, as against 268 to 34 cases in the former year.

The number of infectious diseases notified from 1924 to 1927, with the principal contributors, were as follows :—

	1924.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927*
Chicken Pox	50	20	103	35
Diphtheria	29	17	42	19
Typhoid	33	28	10	14
Tuberculosis	—	3	19	12
Measles	33	3	18	2
Scarlet Fever	65	2	1	1
Other diseases	1	9	17	32
Total ...	211	82	210	115

Tuberculosis became notifiable in the course of 1925 for the first time.

The number of deaths from infectious diseases in 1927 was recorded as follows : 6 from typhoid, 11 from tuberculosis, 7 from pneumonia. Of this list, one case only was that of a visitor to the islands.

The total death-rate was 12.2 and the birth-rate 26.2 per 1,000.

The infantile mortality rate for the past five years has been : 1923 93, 1924 103, 1925 91, 1926 119, 1927 81, per 1,000 living births.

The administration of public health control is unsatisfactory. In each parish there is a local board of health which is primarily responsible for sanitation. There is also a general board of health with strictly limited powers. The latter consists of six members appointed by the Governor, one representative of each parish, nine in number, and one from each municipality This forms an unwieldy body of 17 members. In eight of the parishes there is no special sanitary tax; in six there is no collection of refuse and garbage, etc. In the chief residential parish, the assessed value of the property in which is over £400,000, the total expenditure on sanitation in 1927 was £36. The position has been made more difficult by the refusal of the Legislature to make provision for a trained sanitary inspection service. It is eloquent testimony to the healthiness of the Colony that there has been such comparatively little sickness in the past and that the death-rate is so low.

There is reason to hope that the Legislature will take the position into consideration at an early date and will by centralizing health administration render the Colony in a short time as free from the risk of disease as human precaution can effect.

During the course of the year, a small leper station was established for the segregation of all lepers in the Colony. These were as far as was known only 10 in number. Separate houses were built for them.

The most important move for the betterment of health conditions made during the year was the initiation of the work of the Bermuda Welfare Society, a society composed of a number of ladies associated together for the establishment of a district nursing service, more particularly for the benefit of the poorer people.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races.

The total number of children of school age in the Colony was 2,876 in 1927. The average number on the school lists was 3,545 and the average attendance 2,943 or 83 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age in 1927 are as follows :—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided Schools	620	1,773	2,393
Unaided	195	220	415
Taught at home	23	36	59
Physically or mentally unfit ...	2	7	9
Total	840	2,036	2,876

32 schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 21 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on Education in 1927 was £21,379, of which the principal items were :

Administration £985, Scholarships £754, Buildings £6,379, and General Grant £11,358.

The system of education cannot be considered to be good. The schools are mainly poorly equipped and without play-grounds, and no provision is made for teaching the elements of any trade or industry.

The Director of Education in his report for 1927 states that the average child on leaving school finds himself with a very fair grounding in arithmetic but with no practical knowledge of how to apply

his training, and weak in English though able to write a fairly legible hand. Geography is taught in the traditional style and an outline of early English history comprises his knowledge of History. He may have learnt some elementary hygiene and will probably be fairly well versed in some parts of the Bible.

There are very few certified teachers except the headmasters, and there is no local institute for the training of teachers. Children have to buy their own school-books and materials if their parents can afford them, or do without. The Director of Education has made certain recommendations for the future which will, if supported by the Board, be brought gradually into effect. The Board is prepared for a progressive policy.

Six of the aided schools teach secondary school subjects in the higher forms. Four of these send in candidates every year for the Cambridge Local Examinations. In 1927, out of 64 candidates who sat for these examinations six passed the preliminary, 15 the junior, and eight obtained School Certificates.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

An Ordnance survey of the islands was made in 1898-99. This is naturally much out of date and proposals for a new survey are under consideration. The property of the Colonial Government is limited to the public buildings and premises and a few sea beaches. Both the War Department and the Admiralty have held possession of considerable properties, but they are gradually divesting themselves of those which no longer have any value for defence purposes. The remaining land in the Colony is divided up into small areas under private ownership. There are no large estates. As noted in a previous part of this report, the agricultural industry utilizes some 1,236 acres only, divided into 314 farms.

A considerable number of Americans have acquired winter homes in Bermuda, but the acquisition of land by aliens is strictly controlled by law. No alien may acquire land without the permission of the Governor-in-Council and the total area which may be alienated to foreigners is limited to 2,000 acres in the whole and 400 acres in any one parish. Some 640 acres only had been so alienated up to the end of 1927.

The transfer of land is entirely by deed involving a recital of previous ownerships. It is hoped that this cumbrous and archaic system will be remedied at an early date.

XI.—LABOUR.

There was as usual no appreciable unemployment during the year. The demand is normally slightly in excess of the supply. Probably about one-sixth of the labour comes from the West Indies and the same proportion from the Azores. The latter are mainly engaged in agriculture. Wages are from 9s. to 11s. per diem for unskilled men and 14s. to 16s. for artisans. Domestic servants are paid from 25s. to 40s. per week.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Cost of Living.

The cost of living in Bermuda is very high, but this is not due to taxation. Meat, ice, inland transport, and electric current are all more expensive than in other places in similar conditions. Meat costs from 1s. 3d. to 3s. a lb., and ice 1d. per lb. The only form of land transport other than bicycle is either by carrier 'bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3s. for half a mile or less and 8s. for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 1s. per kilowatt for light and 6d. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap is about £200 a year. The cost of living for a single man is about £3 to £6 a week according to standard.

No motor-cars for private use are allowed in the islands.

Meteorological.

The range of temperature during 1927 was between 45.9 in March and 86.0 in August. The mean temperature for the year was 70.4 and the mean relative humidity 83. The total rainfall was 50.12 inches, or 7.47 below the average for the past nine years. The mean atmospheric pressure was 29.981.

Legislation.

The only legislation of general importance passed in 1927 was The Immigration Act (No. 23). This consolidated previous laws and made some amendments. " Immigrants " generally means in the Act all passengers travelling other than first-class and returning residents. Second-class and steerage passengers are not allowed to land without individual permission and are required to produce certificates of health and character. They are also required to deposit £20 as security against their becoming a charge on public or parochial funds. It is competent, however, for the Governor to give exemption from these requirements. Any immigrant or passenger who is undesirable within the meaning of the law is liable under the new Act to deportation at any time within five years after arrival.

General.

The community generally during 1927 was prosperous and contented. There were no local disturbances of any kind.

H. HENNIKER-HEATON,
Colonial Secretary.

1*st July*, 1928.

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COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

BAHAMAS.
BARBADOS.
BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
BERMUDA.
BRITISH GUIANA.
BRITISH HONDURAS.
BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
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BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1928.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Geographical and Historical.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the west Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ N. latitude and 64° 51′ W. longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population estimated in 1927 at 30,814. The estimated density of the population is 1,622 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island " La Barmuda " in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the i lands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship " The Sea Venture," while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group " The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called " the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the Government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Government and Constitution.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the Government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8*s*. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualifications being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the Departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

I.—GENERAL.

During the year, a report on the possibilities of Bermuda as an Air Port was made by an expert from Imperial Airways, Limited, the report also dealing with the establishment of local aerial services. At the present time the subject is still under consideration by the Legislature.

Proposals were also laid before the Legislature for the complete re-organization of the Post Office Department. This matter was referred to a Select Committee of the House of Assembly, who have, as yet, not reported.

II.—FINANCE.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure for the years 1927 and 1928 :—

Revenue.

	1927.	1928.
	£	£
By Customs	196,698	220,398
Miscellaneous...	57,332	71,685
Reimbursements	36,205	28,666
	£290,235	£320,749

Expenditure.

1927.	£	1928.	£
Personal Emoluments	71,201	Personal Emoluments	77,400
Other Charges ...	217,219	Other Charges ...	226,242
	£288,420		£303,642

The above figures include the following items of Extraordinary Receipts and Expenditure, viz :—

1927.

Receipts.	£	*Expenditure.*	£
Loan under inscribed Stock.	20,280	Repayment of Loan to Crown Agents.	10,000
Savings Bank—equalising of Assets and Liabilities.	1,145	Marsh Reclamation...	9,925
Marsh Reclamation	10,013		
	£31,438		£19,925

1928.

	£		£
Issue of Bermuda Notes.	2,000	Marsh Reclamation	16,418
Savings Bank ...	11,087		
Marsh Reclamation	13,487		
	£26,574		£16,418

The Ordinary Revenue and Expenditure was therefore :—

	1927. £	1928. £
Revenue	258,797	294,174
Expenditure	268,494	287,224

The revenue from Customs duties in 1928 exceeded that in 1927 by £23,700. Amongst the items in which increases occurred were the following :—

	£
Ad Valorem	4,109
Surtax	1,554
Cigars and Cigarettes	4,541
Malt Liquor	1,003
Rum	2,927
Spirits...	8,320
Export duty on Spirits	2,141

Assets and Liabilities.

The excess of Assets over Liabilities at the end of 1928 was £140,429. The following is the detailed statement :—

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Balance in the Public Treasury on 31st December, 1928.	33,227	18	4
In hands of Crown Agents—Credit under Act 49, 1924.	4,107	0	9
Reserve Fund created under authority of the Bermuda Investment Act, 1921, No. 58, and 1923, No. 36. Nominal value of Stock.	20,507	15	7
Superannuation Fund—Nominal value of Stock ...	31,930	3	0
Investments made under the authority of The Government Notes Redemption Act, 1915—Nominal value of Stock.	52,944	2	11
St. David's Island Bridge Investment Account—Nominal value of Stock.	2,275	16	10
Debenture from the Riddell's Bay Golf and Country Club, Ltd., for loan under authority of Act 2, 1925, No. 29.	12,000	0	0
Savings Bank—			
Investments held—Nominal value of Stock. (£ 108,273 16 6)			
Cash in hands of Manager ... (1,882 4 2)			
Balance of advances made to Savings Bank on account of Interest, etc. ... ... (— — —)	110,156	0	8
	£267,148	18	1

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Bermuda Government £1 Notes issued under the authority of the Government Notes Redemption Act, 1917 (No. 9).	38,000	0	0
Ditto ditto issued 1928	2,000	0	0
Savings Bank—			
Amount due Depositors in Savings Bank ...	86,719	3	0
	126,719	3	0
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	140,429	15	1
	£267,148	18	1

PUBLIC DEBT.

The Public Debt at the end of the year was £70,000, viz :—
£50,000 redeemable at par in 1950, incurred in 1920 and 1925 to meet certain public liabilities.
£20,000 redeemable at par in 1959, incurred in 1927 for repayment of loan by Crown Agents and for channel works.
The rate of interest payable is 5 per cent. in each case.
The nominal value of Stock representing investments in Sinking Fund at end of 1928 was £24,582.

III.—PRODUCTION.

The year under review was less favourable to agriculture than was the preceding year. Slightly larger crops were reaped, but prices in New York, the principal market, were below those in 1927.

The quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported during the last ten years were as follows :—

	Bushels.
1919	538,126
1920	513,938
1921	470,225
1922	379,082
1923	318,761
1924	416,604
1925	313,280
1926	426,896
1927	371,887
1928	420,802

The quantity exported in 1928 was 113 per cent. of the previous year's export and 102 per cent. of the average of the last ten years.

The gross value of the exported crops exclusive of lily bulbs was as follows :—

	Vegetables.	*Lily Bulbs.*
	£	£
To Great Britain	—	400
,, Canada	6,961	627
,, United States of America ...	148,996	14,583
,, Other Countries	—	117

The principal items and their values comprised in the above Table were as follows :—

	£
To Canada—	
Onions	3,502
To United States of America—	
Potatoes	76,562
Celery	21,532
Parsley	18,723
Kale	12,962
Carrots	11,325

The estimated local value of all agricultural products during the last five years was :—

	£
1924	366,000
1925	270,500
1926	375,526
1927	324,128
1928	281,938

The value of agricultural products for 1928 as shown above is made up as follows :—

	£
Exported (£86,601 to U.S.A.)...	91,938
Consumed locally (including milk, eggs, and meat).	190,000

Agricultural exports were divided among the four markets approximately as follows :—

	Per Cent.
Great Britain	0.1
Canada	4.0
British West Indies	0.9
United States of America	95.0

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The total value of the trade of the Colony for the year 1928 was £1,764,485, as compared with £1,782,752 in 1927 and £1,644,377 in 1926.

Imports.

The total values of the imports were as follows :—

	1928.	1927.
	£	£
From the United Kingdom ...	471,704	436,801
,, British Possessions ...	370,420	296,497
,, Foreign Countries ...	745,346	799,496

The chief articles of imports with their values were as follows :— Boots and Shoes, £35,013 ; Butter, £41,071 ; Beef, £52,569 ; Bran, £36,656 ; Canned Goods, £33,595 ; Clothing, £22,029 ; Cotton Goods, £48,131 ; Electrical Goods, £30,297 ; Fancy Goods, £184,695 ; Flour, £29,980 ; Furniture, £33,144 ; Groceries, £43,296 ; Hardware, £45,995 ; Meats, £46,866 ; Oats, £42,006 ; Poultry and Meats, £35,085 ; Woollen Goods, £35,095 ; Fruit (fresh), £29,880 ; Malt Liquor, £29,220 ; Whisky, £85,490.

EXPORTS.

The total value of the exports for 1928 was £177,015, as compared with £249,958 in 1927 and £239,553 in 1926, made up as follows :—

	£
To the United Kingdom	11,252
„ British Colonies	47,582
„ Foreign Countries	118,181

The chief articles of export with their declared values were as follows :—

	1928.	1927.
	£	£
Empty Oil Barrels	14,742	17,530
Lily Bulbs	22,122	16,772
Potatoes	39,172	97,360
Other Vegetables	76,635	104,136

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

SHIPPING.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 3,412,301 tons, an increase of 370,951 tons compared with 1927.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

British.

	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	1,532,164	2,473	1,534,637
Cleared	1,534,116	2,740	1,536,856
Total British Shipping			3,071,493

Foreign.

	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	163,417	7,746	171,163
Cleared	162,361	7,284	169,645
Total Foreign Shipping			340,808

The total tonnage entering and clearing for the last five years is shown in the following table :—

	British.	*Total.*
1924	2,358,159	2,758,396
1925	2,367,482	2,749,780
1926	2,465,977	3,188,913
1927	2,466,895	3,041,350
1928	3,071,493	3,412,301

Postal.

In addition to the General Post Office, Hamilton, there are eighteen post offices and sub-post offices throughout the islands, each with two mail deliveries a day. The total revenue for the year 1928 was £43,562 and the total expenditure £15,728, showing an excess of revenue over expenditure of £27,834. The chief item of revenue was from the sale of postage stamps, post-cards, etc., which amounted to £38,863 an increase of £3,210 as compared with 1927. It is estimated that £21,000 was realised from the sale of high-value stamps, £19,600 of which represents the value of 10s. stamps used principally on steamship passenger tickets.

The principal items of expenditure were :—

	£
Salaries	8,830
Extra Clerical Assistance	1,649
Cost of Daily Inland Mails	1,429

The revenue has steadily increased from £10,313 in 1919 to £43,562 in 1928, the expenditure being in 1919 £7,749 and in 1928 £15,728. The number of foreign mails received during the year was 631, comprising 21,071 bags. The number of foreign mails despatched was 1,338, comprising 8,431 bags.

Parcel Post Service.—The total number of parcels received was 77,922, valued at £164,761, on which the Customs duty amounted to £18,206. The number of parcels despatched was 15,021, valued at £13,570.

Money-Orders and Postal-Orders.—During the year, a total of 25,948 money-orders were issued, to the value of £65,325, while the number paid was 2,023, amounting to £7,716.

The number of postal-orders paid was 2,879, valued at £1,469. Postal-orders issued were 12,117, valued at £6,454.

The number of parcels received from England under the C.O.D. system was 5,137, valued at £14,704.

Savings Bank.—On the 31st December, 1928, the total number of open accounts was 4,449, as compared with 4,169 in 1927, an increase of 280. On the same date the amount to the credit of depositors was £86,719, as compared with £85,635 in 1927, an increase of £1,084.

Interest is calculated at 2½ per cent. The amount of invested funds on behalf of the savings bank on the 31st December, 1928, was £108,273. On that date the total liabilities of the Bank amounted to £86,719 (being the amount due to depositors).

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

During the year, there were 279 committals to prison as against 282 in 1927. Actually, out of this number there were 202 different persons imprisoned, as a number of offenders were committed more than once during the year. The number is made up as follows:—

White	Males	41
	Females	43
Coloured	Males	146
	Females	159

The salaries of the Gaol staff amounted to £2,344, and the amount expended on feeding and clothing prisoners, uniform for staff, etc., amounted to £1,821.

The daily average number of prisoners was 52.50.

The daily average cost of dieting, medical comforts, fuel, etc., was 1*s*. $1\frac{3}{4}$*d*. per head per diem.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The supply of labour, augmented as usual by prison labour, was good. The total grants for the year amounted to –

(*a*) Recurrent Works £31,335, of which £30,414 was spent, and

(*b*) Extraordinary Works (including channel works and marsh reclamation) £66,885, of which £55,464 was spent.

87.43 per cent. of the total appropriations was expended, compared with 88.38 per cent. in 1927 and 80.22 per cent. in 1926.

Of the Recurrent Works the largest item of expenditure occurred, as in the past few years, under General Repairs to Roads, on which £17,957 was spent out of an appropriation of £18,015.

The largest items under Extraordinary Works, with the amounts expended under each, were as follows :—

	£
Channel Works	28,029
Marsh Reclamation	14,355

The dredger "King George" was worked for 222 days exclusive of 770 hours' overtime, and the Rockbreaker was employed on 262 days.

The amount of material removed during the year was 149,210 tons.

Dredging operations were confined chiefly to the following :—

Narrows Ship Channel,
Town Cut Channel,
Albuoy's Point,
Flatts Inlet.

Work was continued on the reclamation of the marshes in Pembroke Parish. The grant for 1928 for this service was £18,000, of which £14,355 were expended.

Eastern Marsh.—The reclamation of a 3½-acre area was completed in May. The construction of a ¾-mile race-course on the reclaimed area was completed at the end of the year. 350 feet of the new concrete canal was constructed on reclaimed land.

Western Marsh.—About 6 acres have been reclaimed. The total area of marsh land reclaimed to final level at the end of the year is 15 acres.

Of the total Public Works expenditure of £85,878, 21.10 per cent. was spent on roads, 37.30 per cent. on channel works, 16.70 per cent. on marsh reclamation, and 24.90 per cent. on general works.

The mileage of the roads is about 105, of which 36 are macadamized.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Bermuda rejoices in a very healthy climate, although the humidity in the air renders it somewhat relaxing in the summer months. As stated by the Director of the Health Department in his report for 1927, it is sufficiently north to be free from tropical diseases and sufficiently remote from the great centres of population in the temperate zone to be spared the severe respiratory diseases so prevalent there.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the *anopheles* has never existed in the islands, so they have always been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

Admissions into the Isolation Hospital, established in January, 1927, of infectious cases were as follows :—

Diphtheria	20
Erysipelas	1
Measles	1
German Measles	2
Mumps	1
Whooping Cough	6

The number of infectious diseases notified from 1925 to 1928 was as follows :—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Chicken-pox	20	103	35	67
Diphtheria	17	42	19	32
Measles	3	18	2	9
Mumps	—	3	6	329
Tuberculosis	3	19	12	10
Typhoid...	28	10	14	3
Whooping Cough ...	—	1	3	287
Other Diseases	11	14	24	15

In minor contagious diseases the year has had the highest incidence on record.

The Director of Health reports that the cases of mumps, whooping cough, and measles were brought into the Colony from abroad.

The number of deaths from infectious diseases was as follows :—

Pneumonia...	42
Whooping Cough	3
Tuberculosis	5

Vital Statistics.

The total population on 31st December, 1928, was estimated to be 31,725, of which the Naval and Military personnel and families are estimated at 841.

The total is made up as follows :—

	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*
White	8,961	7,436	16,397
Coloured	7,309	8,019	15,328

The following table shows the number of births (excluding still-births) and deaths :—

	White.		*Coloured.*		*Total.*
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Births	127	122	245	244	738
Deaths	59	42	136	121	358

The number of still-births was 33 (8 white and 25 coloured).

The birth-rate per 1,000 of population was, white 16.89, coloured 31.28, all classes 24.34 ; and the death-rate (excluding still-births), white 6.91, coloured 16.37, all classes 11.81.

The deaths under 1 year, excluding still-births, numbered 76 (white 11, coloured 65).

Illegitimate births, including still-births, numbered 121 out of 759 civilian births, equivalent to a rate of 15.90 per cent. (white 4.08 per cent., coloured 21.50 per cent.).

The total number of marriages was 147 (white 52, coloured 93, mixed 2).

King Edward VII Memorial Hospital.

This institution was opened in July, 1920. Its management is under the direction of a Board of Governors appointed by the Governor, by whom the medical staff is also appointed. The direct management of the Hospital is under the Medical Superintendent. The nursing staff consists of a matron, assistant matron, 6 sisters, 9 nurses, and 21 pupil nurses. The domestic staff, including orderlies, cooks, and maids, is under the management of the housekeeper, assisted by an assistant housekeeper.

On the 1st January, 63 patients remained who were admitted in 1927. The number of patients admitted, including infants born during 1928, was 1,015, of whom 55 remained at the end of the year.

Including those left in from 1927 the total number of patients (1,078) is made up as follows :—

White—	
Male	288
Female	453
Coloured—	
Male	140
Female	197

The total number of patient days was 18,561.

Average stay, in days	18.28
Daily average	50.85

318 major and 921 minor operations were performed during the year.

In the Isolation Hospital 34 cases were admitted, viz.:—

Diphtheria	28
Whooping Cough	3
Mumps	1
Measles	2

In the venereal clinic 78 patients received a total of 873 treatments.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races.

	1927.	1928.
Average enrolment	3,545	3,558
Average attendance...	2,943	2,779
Percentage of average attendance to enrolment.	83	78

The total number of resident children of school age on 31st December, 1928, was 2,991, as compared with 2,876 in 1927, viz., 2,096 coloured and 895 white.

During the year, 31 schools were in receipt of grants from the Board of Education, 11 being attended by white and 20 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on Education in 1928 was £19,935, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,314
Scholarships	982
Buildings	4,923
General Grant	12,511

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A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this Scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

Bermuda is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December.

The first section of a new school for coloured children, to be known as the Central School, was completed in April. Two more sections are to be built, the estimated total cost of the school being £22,000, and will accommodate 1,000 children.

Another school, necessitated by the increasing population amongst the Portuguese in Paget Parish and the vicinity, will be provided shortly for white children.

There are very few certified teachers except the headmasters, and there is no local institute for the training of teachers. The Board of Education have under consideration a scheme for meeting this need.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

An Ordnance survey of the islands was made in 1898–99. This is naturally much out of date and proposals for a new survey are under consideration. The property of the Colonial Government is limited to the public buildings and premises and a few sea beaches. Both the War Department and the Admiralty have held possession of considerable properties, but they are gradually divesting themselves of those which no longer have any value for defence purposes. The remaining land in the Colony is divided up into small areas under private ownership. There are no large estates. As noted in a previous part of this report, the agricultural industry utilizes some 1,236 acres only, divided into 314 farms.

A considerable number of Americans have acquired winter homes in Bermuda, but the acquisition of land by aliens is strictly controlled by law. No alien may acquire land without the permission of the Governor-in-Council and the total area which may be alienated to foreigners is limited to 2,000 acres in the whole and 400 acres in any one parish. Some 640 acres only had been so alienated up to the end of 1927.

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The transfer of land is entirely by deed involving a recital of previous ownerships. It is hoped that this cumbrous and archaic system will be remedied at an early date.

XI.—LABOUR.

There was as usual no appreciable unemployment during the year. The demand is normally slightly in excess of the supply. Probably about one-sixth of the labour comes from the West Indies and the same proportion from the Azores. The latter are mainly engaged in agriculture. Wages are from 9*s*. to 11*s*. per diem for unskilled men and 14*s*. to 16*s*. for artisans. Domestic servants are paid from 25*s*. to 40*s*. per week.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Cost of Living.—The cost of living in Bermuda is very high, but this is not due to taxation. Meat, ice, inland transport, and electric current are all more expensive than in other places in similar conditions. Meat costs from 1*s*. 3*d*. a lb., and ice 1*d*. per lb. The only form of land transport other than bicycle is either by carrier 'bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3*s*. for half a mile or less and 8*s*. for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 1*s*. per kilowatt for light and 6d. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap is about £200 a year. The cost of living for a single man is about £3 to £6 a week according to standard.

No motor-cars for private use are allowed in the islands.

Meteorological.

The following are the chief figures for 1928 :—

Mean atmospheric pressure ...	30.06 inches.
Mean temperature	70.60°
Mean hourly velocity of wind	11 miles per hour.
Mean relative humidity ...	86 per cent.
Rainfall	73.72 inches.
Difference in average for past nine years.	22.24 inches above average.
Highest temperature	89.80°, September.
Lowest ,, ...	49.20°, November.

Legislation.

The chief measures of importance enacted during the year under review were the following .—

The Dangerous Drugs Act, amending the law in respect of the import, export, manufacture, sale, and use of opium and other dangerous drugs.

The Aquarium Act, making provision for the administration, control, and maintenance of the new aquarium at the Flatts District.

The Supreme Court Act, providing for three instead of two Sessions of the Court annually.

The Lepers Act, providing for the control of lepers and the establishment of a leper hospital.

The Parliamentary Election Act, consolidating and amending the law relating to Parliamentary Elections.

The Pilot Act, providing for the establishment of a pilot service under Government control.

JOHN TRIMINGHAM,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

BERMUDA,

23*rd September*, 1929.

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BERMUDA

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BERMUDA.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1929.

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Geographical and Historical.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the west Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ N. latitude and 64° 51′ W. longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population estimated in 1927 at 30,814. The estimated density of the population is 1,622 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island " La Barmuda " in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture*, while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group " The Somers' Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called " the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Government and Constitution.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

I.—GENERAL.

No constitutional change and no special events of internal political importance took place during the year under review. Noteworthy events affecting the relations of the Colony with other territories included a visit in the autumn by the Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, and also a visit to Canada earlier in the year by Colonial delegates for the purpose of exploring the possibilities of extending the market in the Dominion for local vegetable produce. From these visits the association between Canada and the Colony has undoubtedly gained strength; and practical measures are being designed for improvement in the method of placing local produce on the Canadian market.

The realization of the increasing importance of the Colony's connection with Canada was also reflected in the decision of Bermuda to participate in the First West Indies Conference, held in Barbados early in the year, at which the Colonies participating in the Canada-West Indies, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, Trade Agreement, 1925, were represented. Three delegates attended the Conference on behalf of Bermuda.

A delegation also visited England during the summer to represent the views of the Colony to a Select Committee of the House of Lords appointed to consider a Bill embodying proposals on the part of the Rhodes Trustees for the discontinuance of the exclusive award of Rhodes Scholarships to Bermuda. The decision to continue the award on the existing basis was in accordance with the

aim of the delegation. About the same time a Special Commission, which is still sitting, was appointed locally to examine the question of the improvement of secondary education with a view to raising the standard of education generally.

The question of the establishment of an aerial service between the Colony and the United States of America was referred for consideration by a Select Committee of the House of Assembly, and there are indications that practical developments in the direction of civil aviation may be expected in the near future. In another direction an important step was taken towards the improvement of external communications. An order was placed in England for a new dredger, costing about £100,000, to be utilized for widening and deepening the main channel used by all ocean-going vessels calling at Bermuda.

II.—FINANCE.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1925–1929 :—

	Revenue.	*Recurrent Expenditure.*	*Expenditure from Reserves.*
	£	£	£
1925	243,425	300,283	—
1926	256,402	260,784	31,663
1927	259,943	268,495	35,847
1928	294,174	287,224	16,418
1929	331,448	334,262	—

Of the total revenue for the year, viz., £331,448, £240,649 represents customs receipts. Miscellaneous revenue amounted to £60,251 ; and revenue derived from reimbursements amounted to £30,548.

No changes were made during the year under review in the method of raising revenue apart from certain alterations in the specific Customs duties and the increase from 10 per cent. to 25 per cent. of the surtax chargeable on duty on foreign goods. The increase in revenue reflects a general increase in the consumption of commodities consequent on the growth of the tourist traffic.

There is a Government Note issue of £83,000 of which notes of £1 and 10*s*. denominations to the amount of £43,000 were issued during the year.

The value of the investments held as security for this liability was £101,208 on the 1st January, 1930. There is no coin reserve.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on the 31st December was £91,486, against £86,719 and £84,568 in 1928 and 1927 respectively.

The public debt of the Colony, repayable at par in 1950, stood at £70,000 at the end of the year. £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, and the balance in 1927. Under the Bermuda Local Loan Act, 1892, which governs these loans, payments into a

sinking fund begin three years from date of the first issue of stock. The rate of interest is 5 per cent. and the last loan was raised at a premium of £1 8*s*. 0*d*. per £100. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on the 31st December was £21,252.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st December, 1929, was £148,967. The surplus monies available for general purposes on this date were £30,413. There are two private banks in the Colony, The Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The authorized capital in each case is £15,000. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £526,354 7*s*. 2*d*. and £438,987 1*s* 2*d*. respectively.

III.—PRODUCTION.

The only industry of the Colony, apart from boat-building on a small scale and fishing for local consumption, is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs for export.

The following table gives the quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported each year from 1925 to 1929, together with an estimate of the net annual value of the crop exported and consumed locally :—

	Quantity (Bushels).	*Net Bermuda Exports. Value.*	*Consumed locally. Farm Value.*	*Total Value of Crop.*
		£	£	£
1925	313,280	104,500	166,000	270,500
1926	426,896	190,526	185,000	375,526
1927	371,887	133,128	191,000	324,128
1928	420,802	138,243	142,957	281,200
1929	491,500	136,013	161,587	297,600

Owing to the greater demand for the less valuable agricultural commodities, the total value of the crop in the last two years shows a decrease, although the quantity produced has increased.

The chief crops and their destinations in 1929 were as follows :—

Vegetable.	*Quantity.*	*Country of Destination.*
Potatoes... ...	34,592 barrels	United States of America
	34 ,,	Canada.
	261 ,,	British West Indies
Celery	73,606 crates	United States of America
Parsley	32,063 ,,	,, ,, ,,
Carrots	7,497 ,,	,, ,, ,,
Kale	8,052 ,,	,, ,, ,,
Onions	81 ,,	,, ,, ,,
	3,419 ,,	Canada
	555 ,,	British West Indies
Tomatoes ...	23,329 ,,	Canada.

The total value of the exports to the United States was £163,428. This figure includes lily bulbs, of which 3,364 cases were shipped, to the value of £10,092. Exports to Canada were valued at £14,392 and to the West Indies at £3,253. The only export of Bermuda produce to Great Britain was 10 crates of potatoes, valued at £2.

Agriculture is entirely in the hands of small farmers. There are some 17 holdings only of more than 10 acres, the largest being 46½ acres, and about 500 holdings under 10 acres. The total area cultivated was approximately 1,670 acres.

The number of acres under potatoes in 1929 was 600, green vegetables 900, bananas 90, lilies 60, and onions 20.

The market values of the exports of agriculture products in 1929 were :—

	£
Carrots	7,994
Celery	155,894
Lettuce	167
Onions	4,055
Parsley	8,051
Potatoes	36,703

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The only trade of any importance in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the great bulk of whom come from America. The majority of visitors arrive in the winter months, from the end of December until the end of April. During this period in 1929 four passenger steamers a week came to Bermuda from New York ; two belonging to Messrs. Furness Withy and Company Limited, and two to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. The former firm were in receipt of a subsidy at the rate of £25,000 a year. The summer season has been increasing steadily in popularity during the last few years ; it lasts from July to October. Hotel and steamship rates are lower in summer than in winter. The number of tourists visiting the Colony during the summer season showed a considerable increase in 1929.

The management of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. It is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the traffic.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table :—

	Expenditure.	*Tourists.*
	£	
1925	39,531	26,190
1926	34,904	27,214
1927	36,694	30,816
1928	35,199	36,391
1929	50,243	39,052

The expenditure on advertising annually is approximately £7,000 in America, £2,500 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain. Some £5,500 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors, a steamer subsidy of £25,000 being included under this head. It has been estimated that the average stay of tourists is 10 days, during which each tourist will spend from £2 a day upwards.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12*s.* 6*d.* on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the States or Canada. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1925	1,325,041	166,020
1926	1,404,824	239,553
1927	1,532,794	249,958
1928	1,587,470	177,015
1929	1,718,248	185,903

IMPORTS.

From	1929. £	1928. £
United Kingdom	573,569	471,704
British Colonies	349,652	370,420
Foreign Countries	795,027	745,346
	£1,718,248	£1,587,470

The chief articles of imports with their values were as follows :—

Boots and shoes, £31,653 ; butter, £41,438 ; beef, £44,333 ; bran, £25,558 ; canned goods, £44,407 ; clothing, £26,818 ; cotton goods, £69,525 ; electrical goods, £35,329 ; fancy goods, £169,010 ; flour, £28,6[illegible]3 ; furniture, £42,938 ; groceries, £40,439 ; hardware, £51,474; meats, £59,816 ; oats, £42,326 ; poultry, £36,521 ; woollen goods, £42,463 ; fruit (fresh), £32,804 ; malt liquor, £39,205 ; whisky, £108,319.

Exports.

To	1929. £	1928. £
United Kingdom	4,740	11,252
British Colonies...	17,645	47,582
Foreign Countries	163,518	118,181
	£185,903	£177,015

Chief Articles of Export.

	1929. £	1928. £
Empty Oil Barrels	20,858	14,742
Lily Bulbs	10,232	22,122
Potatoes	51,473	39,172
Other Vegetables	74,145	76,635
Whisky	150	600

Owing to the operation of the preferential tariff there was a marked increase in the importation of manufactured goods from the United Kingdom.

General.

Competition in practically all branches of trade is keen. Import business is conducted either through local commission agents ; or through the placing of orders by buyers who visit centres of production during the summer.

Cost of Living.

The standard of living in Bermuda is very high, and is reflected in high prices. Practically all essentials, as well as luxuries, are more expensive than elsewhere. The only form of land transport other than bicycle is either by carrier 'bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3*s*. for half a mile or less and 8*s*. for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 10*d*. per kilowatt for light and 5*d*. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap costs about £200 a year.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 4,073,459 tons, an increase of 661,158 tons compared with 1928.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

British.

	Steam. Tons.	*Sail.* Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
Entered	816,328	816	817,144
Cleared	735,451	1,489	736,940
Total British Shipping			1,554,084

Foreign.

	Steam. Tons.	*Sail.* Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
Entered	1,208,441	9,520	1,217,961
Cleared	1,293,135	8,279	1,301,414
Total Foreign Shipping			2,519,375

Total Tonnage.

1929 ... ... British ... 1,554,084 Total ... 4,073,459

In addition to the regular service with New York with from one to four steamers running weekly according to the season, the service with the West Indies and Canada for passengers and freight was maintained at fortnightly intervals throughout the year by the Canadian Government Merchant Marine.

Direct passenger service was maintained between England and Bermuda by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Limited. The Royal Mail Company and the London Direct Line were mainly responsible for the freight service from the United Kingdom.

Railway.

The work of constructing a railway, for which facilities had been granted to a private company in 1924, was continued during the year.

Roads.

No new roads were constructed, and no development of any importance took place.

Postal.

Three hundred and twenty-four mails were received from overseas and 194 despatched. The volume of business generally is probably greater relatively than that of any other Colony owing to

the constant stream of tourists. 79,718 parcels were received. The money-order business amounted to £84,918. Of this, orders to the value of £76,082 were issued and £8,826 paid.

The transit to London for mails is usually 11 days.

The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire remains at 1*d.* per ounce or part of an ounce.

CABLES AND WIRELESS.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West India Company a line to Jamaica via Turks Islands. The full-rate charges are: New York 1*s.* 6*d.*, and England 2*s.* 4*d.* a word. There is a weekend letter service to Great Britain at a minimum charge of 11*s.* 8*d.* (for twenty words).

In 1925 a licence was granted to the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company granting them a monopoly of commercial wireless traffic, the right being reserved to the Government to take over the Station at the end of ten or fifteen years. The station was completed by the end of 1927 but was not open for traffic. The call sign is G Z H. The system of transmission is Marconi C.W. Valve 25 K.W. The wave-length is to be between 2,750 and 3,000 metres and the range 2,500 miles. There is also a 1.5 K.W. quenched gap set, tuned to 600, 650, 750, and 800 metres for working with ship stations.

TELEPHONES.

There are about 1,450 miles of telephone line owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £8 10*s.* 0*d.* (residential) to £11 10*s.* 0*d.* per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

This section does not call for any particular comment. 267 persons were committed to prison during the year, as against 279 in 1928. Of these, 234 were men; 116 were first offenders, 8 were sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more, and 161 for three months or less.

1,042 persons were prosecuted, of whom 42 were discharged, 963 punished on summary conviction, and 37 dealt with by the Supreme Court. Of the latter, 25 were for offences against property, and 12 for offences against the person. There were no cases of manslaughter.

1929 was marked by the passage of three Acts dealing with the consolidation of the laws relating to Summary Offences, Indictable Offences, and Criminal Code.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The heaviest item of expenditure under this head for a number of years has been on the cost of widening and deepening the approaches to the Colony by sea. £352,200 has been spent on this object since 1910. The Narrows Ship Channel was widened to 450 feet and deepened to 31 feet throughout.

During the year 1929, 27 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Public Works Department was on dredging; 9 per cent. on the reclamation of marshes, and 64 per cent. on general works.

£4,760 was expended on a new school for coloured children, designed to accommodate 1,000 scholars. The estimate of the total cost is £18,000.

The expenditure on the maintenance of the roads is £18,976.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Bermuda has a very healthy climate, although the humidity in the air renders it somewhat relaxing in the summer months. The Colony is sufficiently north to be free from tropical diseases and sufficiently remote from the great centres of population in the temperate zone to be spared the severe respiratory diseases so prevalent there.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the *anopheles* has never existed in the islands, which have consequently been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The number of infectious diseases notified from 1925 to 1929 with the principal contributors, were as follows:—

	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.
Chicken-Pox	20	103	35	67	92
Diphtheria	17	42	19	32	175
Typhoid	28	10	14	3	4
Tuberculosis	3	19	12	10	16
Measles	3	18	2	9	6
Scarlet Fever... ...	2	1	1	1	5
Other diseases ...	9	1	32	628	222
	82	210	115	750	520

Tuberculosis became notifiable in the course of 1925 for the first time.

The number of deaths from infectious diseases in 1929 was recorded as follows: 12 from tuberculosis, 13 from pneumonia.

The total death-rate was 10.08 and the birth-rate 23.75 per 1,000.

The infant mortality rate for the past five years has been: 1925, 91; 1926, 119; 1927, 81; 1928, 64; 1929, 76; per 1,000 living births.

METEOROLOGICAL.

The range of temperature during 1929 was between 44.2 in February and 90.2 in September. The mean temperature for the year was 71.7 and the mean relative humidity 85. The total rainfall was 59.57 inches, or 2.42 above the average for the past 10 years. The mean atmospheric pressure was 30.028.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races.

The total number of children of school age in the Colony was 3,019 in 1929. The average number of pupils registered in the schools was 3,512, and the average attendance 2,878 or 82 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age in 1929 are as follows :—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided Schools	680	1,875	2,555
Unaided	229	148	377
Taught at home	31	36	67
Physically or mentally unfit	5	15	20
	945	2,074	3,019

Thirty-two schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 21 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on education in 1929 was £23,619, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,351
Scholarships	1,096
Buildings	5,782
General Grant	13,186

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December ; and every year candidates from four of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local University, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this Scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

X.—LANDS AND SURVEYS.

An Ordnance survey of the islands was made in 1898–99. The property of the Colonial Government is limited to the public buildings and premises and a few sea beaches. Both the War Department and the Admiralty have held possession of considerable properties, but they are gradually divesting themselves of those which no longer have any value for defence purposes. The remaining land in the Colony is divided up into small areas under private ownership. There are no large estates.

A considerable number of Americans have acquired winter homes in Bermuda, but the acquisition of land by aliens is strictly controlled by law. No alien may acquire land without the permission of the Governor-in-Council and the total area which may be alienated to foreigners is limited to 2,000 acres in the whole and 400 acres in any one parish. Some 699 acres only had been so alienated up to the end of 1929.

XI.—LABOUR.

There was no appreciable unemployment during the year. The demand for labour was somewhat in excess of the supply, and the deficiency was met by the normal influx of immigrant labour. Labour conditions are favourable and high rates of wages are paid; but, owing to the high cost of living and the limited scope for skilled labour, it is advisable for any intending immigrant to secure employment before proceeding to the Colony.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The only Legislative measure of general importance passed in 1929 was The Parish Vestries Act (No. 3). This Act consolidates and amends the law relating to parochial elections and taxes and to the powers of the parish authorities.

E. W. EVANS,
Colonial Secretary.

17*th October*, 1930.

(8840—21) Wt. 20959—1808 625 1/31 P. St. G. 7/8

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W Lon. 64° 37'

N Lat. 32°23'

N Lat. 32°14'

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Barracks

Sch.

Ch.

PO

Smith's

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Ferry Reach

Long Bird Island

Causeway

Sound

St David's Head

St David's Island

Lighthouse

Cove Point

CASTLE HARBOUR

Cooper's Island

Nonsuch Island

HAMILTON

HARRINGTON SOUND

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IRELAND ISLAND

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GRASSY BAY

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MANGROVE BAY

BOAZ ISLAND

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Stovel Bay

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Government Ho.

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Head Qrs.

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PAGET

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SANDYS

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WARWICK

HOG FISH CUT

SOUTHAMPTON

Lighthouse

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0 1 2 3 4 Miles

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PREFATORY NOTE.

Geographical and Historical.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the west Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ N. latitude and 64° 51′ W. longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population estimated in 1927 at 30,814. The estimated density of the population is 1,622 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture*, while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group "The Somers Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Government and Constitution.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on the 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

I.—GENERAL.

No constitutional change and no special events of internal political importance took place during the year under review. In January the Governor-General of the Dominion of Canada, who had visited the Colony in the previous autumn on his way to the West Indies, again visited Bermuda on his return journey to Canada. In accordance with the Colony's policy of consolidating and developing trade relations with Canada, a delegate attended the Conference which took place at Trinidad early in the year between the Colonies participating in the Canada-West Indies, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, Trade Agreement, 1925. An official delegation also visited Ottawa later in the year to confer with the Canadian Government.

In November a new dredger, costing about £100,000, for which an order had been placed in England during the previous year, arrived in the Colony. About the same time a special Commission was appointed with the following terms of reference:—

> "to consider how best to provide the necessary Port and Channel facilities which will probably be required in the near future to accommodate the larger ships and the steadily increasing number of ships which are coming and will probably come to Bermuda."

No practical developments of any importance took place in the direction of the establishment of civil aviation.

In the sphere of legislation, the parliamentary session which terminated in August was noteworthy for the passage of a large number of consolidating measures.

Mention is made, with regret, of the death, which occurred in September, of the Governor, Lieutenant-General Sir Louis J. Bols, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O. The appointment of a successor to the late Governor had not been made by the end of the year.

II.—FINANCE.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1926–1930 :—

	Revenue.	*Recurrent Expenditure.*	*Expenditure from Reserves.*
	£	£	£
1926	256,402	260,784	31,663
1927	259,943	268,495	35,847
1928	294,174	287,224	16,418
1929	331,448	334,262	—
1930	429,190	409,572	—

Of the total revenue for the year, £301,474 represents customs receipts. Miscellaneous revenue amounted to £92,516; and revenue derived from reimbursements amounted to £35,200.

No changes were made during the year under review in the method of raising revenue apart from certain alterations in the specific Customs duties. The increase in revenue reflects a general increase in the consumption of commodities consequent on the growth of the tourist traffic.

There is a Government Note issue of £131,223 of which notes of £1 and 10*s*. denominations to the amount of £48,223 were issued during the year.

The value of the investments held as security for this liability was £155,097 on the 1st January, 1931. There is no coin reserve.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on the 31st December was £132,703, against £91,486 and £86,719 in 1929 and 1928 respectively.

The public debt of the Colony, repayable at par in 1950, stood at £75,000 at the end of the year. £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927, and the balance in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on the 31st December was £27,410 3s. 8d.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on the 31st December, 1930, was £174,411. The surplus monies available for general purposes on this date were £50,031. There are two private Banks in the Colony, The Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £812,981 14*s.* 5½*d.* and £609,447 15*s.* respectively.

III.—PRODUCTION.

The only industry of the Colony, apart from boat-building on a small scale and fishing for local consumption, is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs for export.

The following table gives the quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported each year from 1926 to 1930, together with an estimate of the net annual value of the crop exported and consumed locally :—

	Quantity (Bushels).	*Net Bermuda Exports. Value.*	*Consumed locally. Farm Value.*	*Total Value of Crop.*
		£	£	£
1926	426,896	190,526	185,000	375,526
1927	371,887	133,128	191,000	324,128
1928	420,802	138,243	142,957	281,200
1929	491,500	136,013	161,587	297,600
1930	441,000	138,028	177,022	315,050

Owing to the greater demand for the less valuable agricultural commodities, the total value of the crop in the last three years shows a decrease, although the quantity produced has increased.

The chief crops and their destinations in 1930 were as follows :—

Vegetable.	*Quantity.*	*Country of Destination.*
Potatoes... ...	65,488 barrels	United States of America
	452 ,,	Canada
	13 ,,	British West Indies
Celery	95,978 bushels	United States of America
Parsley	11,431 ,,	,, ,, ,,
Carrots	2,345 ,,	,, ,, ,,
	16,840 ,,	Canada
Kale	14,220 ,,	United States of America
Onions	148 ,,	,, ,, ,,
	10,322 ,,	Canada
	267 ,,	British West Indies
Tomatoes ...	6,581 ,,	Canada

The total value of the exports to the United States was £159,668. This figure includes lily bulbs, of which 5,740 cases were shipped, to the value of £16,706. Exports to Canada were valued at £27,604 and to the West Indies at £4,001. The only export of Bermuda produce to Great Britain was five boxes of flowers, valued at £5.

Agriculture is entirely in the hands of small farmers. There are some 17 holdings only of more than 10 acres, the largest being 46½ acres, and about 450 holdings under 10 acres. The total area cultivated was approximately 1,400 acres.

The number of acres under potatoes in 1930 was 500, green vegetables 750, bananas 90 and lilies 60.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

The only trade of any importance in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the great bulk of whom come from America. The majority of visitors arrive in the winter months, from the end of December until the end of April. During this period in 1930 four passenger steamers a week came to Bermuda from New York; two belonging to Messrs. Furness Withy and Company Limited, one to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, and one to the Munson Line. The former firm were in receipt of a subsidy at the rate of £25,000 a year. The summer season has been increasing steadily in popularity during the last few years; it lasts from July to October. Hotel and steamship rates are lower in summer than in winter. The number of tourists visiting the Colony during the summer season showed a considerable increase in 1930.

The management of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. It is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the traffic.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table :—

	Expenditure. £	*Tourists.*
1925	39,531	26,190
1926	34,904	27,214
1927	36,694	30,816
1928	35,199	36,391
1929	50,243	39,052
1930	51,676	43,094

The expenditure on advertising annually is approximately £8,000 in America, £2,500 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain. Some £4,250 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamer subsidies of £28,000 are included in the expenditure of this Board. It has been estimated that the average stay of tourists is 10 days, during which each tourist will spend from £2 a day upwards.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12*s.* 6*d.* on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the States or Canada. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1926	1,404,824	239,553
1927	1,532,794	249,958
1928	1,587,470	177,015
1929	1,718,248	185,903
1930	1,954,568	191,727

IMPORTS.

From	1929. £	1930. £
United Kingdom	573,569	510,496
British Colonies	349,652	545,091
Foreign Countries	795,027	898,981
	£1,718,248	£1,954,568

The chief articles of imports with their values were as follows :-

Boots and shoes, £36,246 ; butter, £40,590 ; beef, £34,695 ; bran, £30,324 ; canned goods, £41,415 ; clothing, £83,721 ; cotton goods, £28,677 ; electrical goods, £52,645 ; fancy goods, £164,871 ; flour, £29,383 ; furniture, £51,480 ; groceries, £64,694 ; hardware, £90,423; meats, £49,703 ; oats, £38,292 ; poultry, £61,310 ; woollen goods, £33,749 ; fruit (fresh), £33,800 ; malt liquor, £33,430 ; whisky, £227,194.

EXPORTS.

To	1929. £	1930. £
United Kingdom	4,740	159
British Colonies...	17,645	31,605
Foreign Countries	163,518	159,963
	£185,903	£191,727

Chief Articles of Export.

	1929. £	1930. £
Empty Oil Barrels	20,858	28,268
Lily Bulbs	10,232	16,706
Potatoes	51,473	44,101
Other Vegetables	74,145	93,927
Whisky	150	470

Owing to the operation of the preferential tariff there was a marked increase in the importation of manufactured goods from the British Empire.

GENERAL.

Competition in practically all branches of trade is keen. Import business is conducted either through local commission agents, or through the placing of orders by buyers who visit centres of production during the summer.

COST OF LIVING.

The standard of living in Bermuda is very high, and is reflected in high prices. Practically all essentials, as well as luxuries, are more expensive than elsewhere. The only form of land transport other than bicycle is either by carrier 'bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3*s*. for half a mile or less and 8*s*. for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 10*d*. per kilowatt for light and 5*d*. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap costs about £200 a year.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

SHIPPING.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 5,739,748 tons, an increase of 1,666,289 tons compared with 1929.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

British.

	Steam. Tons.	*Sail.* Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
Entered	1,933,873	2,021	1,935,894
Cleared	1,924,321	2,263	1,926,584
Total British Shipping			3,862,478

Foreign.

	Steam. Tons.	*Sail.* Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
Entered	931,974	6,867	938,841
Cleared	932,073	6,356	938,429
Total Foreign Shipping			1,877,270

Total Tonnage.

1930 ... ... British ... 3,862,478 Total ... 5,739,748

In addition to the regular service with New York with from one to four steamers running weekly according to the season, the service with the West Indies and Canada for passengers and freight was maintained at fortnightly intervals throughout the year by the Canadian Government Merchant Marine.

Direct passenger service was maintained between England and Bermuda by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Limited. The Royal Mail Company and the London Direct Line were mainly responsible for the freight service from the United Kingdom.

Railway.

The work of constructing a railway, for which facilities had been granted to a private company in 1924, was continued during the year.

Roads.

No new roads were constructed, and no development of any importance took place.

Postal.

Three hundred and forty-one mails were received from overseas and 263 despatched. The volume of business generally is probably greater relatively than that of any other Colony owing to the constant stream of tourists. 81,022 parcels were received. The money-order business amounted to £92,702. Of this, orders to the value of £82,750 were issued and £9,952 paid.

The transit to London for mails is usually 11 days.

The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire remains at 1*d.* per ounce or part of an ounce.

CABLES AND WIRELESS.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West India Company a line to Jamaica via Turks Islands. The full-rate charges are : New York 1*s.* 6*d.*, and England 2*s.* 4*d.* a word. There is a week-end letter service to Great Britain at a minimum charge of 11*s.* 8*d.* (for twenty words).

In 1925 a licence was granted to the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company granting them a monopoly of commercial wireless traffic, the right being reserved to the Government to take over the Station at the end of ten or fifteen years. The station was completed by the end of 1927 but was not open for traffic. The call sign is G Z H. The system of transmission is Marconi C.W. Valve 25 K.W. The wave-length is to be between 2,750 and 3,000 metres and the range 2,500 miles. There is also a 1.5 K.W. quenched gap set, tuned to 600, 650, 750, and 800 metres for working with ship stations.

TELEPHONES.

There are about 1,450 miles of telephone line owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £8 10*s.* 0*d.* (residential) to £11 10*s.* 0*d.* per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

This section does not call for any particular comment. 256 persons were committed to prison during the year, as against 267 in 1929. Of these, 229 were men ; 106 were first offenders, 8 were sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more, and 129 for three months or less.

1,010 persons were prosecuted, of whom 54 were discharged, 908 punished on summary conviction, and 41 convicted by the Supreme Court. Of the latter, 27 were for offences against property, and 13 for offences against the person. There were no cases of manslaughter.

1930 was marked by the passage of seven Acts dealing with the consolidation of the laws relating to the Supreme Court, Justices Civil Jurisdiction and Summary Offences Jurisdiction.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The heaviest item of expenditure under this head for a number of years has been the cost of widening and deepening the approaches to the Colony by sea. £380,108 has been spent on this object since 1910. The Narrows Ship Channel has been widened to 450 feet and deepened to 31 feet throughout, and a general plan for the improvement of the Channels is being carried out.

During the year 1930, 27 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Public Works Department was on dredging, 30 per cent. on the reclamation of marshes, and 43 per cent. on general works.

£4,706 was expended on a new school for coloured children, designed to accommodate 1,000 scholars. The estimate of the total cost is £27,000.

The expenditure on the maintenance of the roads was £20,837.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

Bermuda has a very healthy climate, although the humidity in the air renders it somewhat relaxing in the summer months. The Colony is sufficiently north to be free from tropical diseases and sufficiently remote from the great centres of population in the temperate zone to be spared the severe respiratory diseases so prevalent there.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the *anopheles* has never existed in the Islands, which have consequently been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The numbers of infectious diseases notified from 1926 to 1930 with the principal contributors, were as follows :—

	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.
Chicken-Pox	103	35	67	92	15
Diphtheria	42	19	32	175	54
Typhoid	10	14	3	4	8
Tuberculosis	19	12	10	16	13
Measles	18	2	9	6	460
Scarlet Fever... ...	1	1	1	5	—
Other diseases ...	17	32	628	222	28
	—	—	—	—	—
	210	115	750	520	578
	—	—	—	—	—

Tuberculosis became notifiable in the course of 1925 for the first time.

The number of deaths from infectious diseases in 1930 was recorded as follows : 11 from tuberculosis, 8 from pneumonia.

The total death-rate was 9.99 and the birth-rate 25.28 per 1,000.

The infant mortality rate for the past five years has been : 1926, 119 ; 1927, 81 ; 1928, 64 ; 1929, 76 ; 1930, 76 ; per 1,000 living births.

Meteorological.

The range of temperature during 1930 was between 50.2 in March and 90.0 in September. The mean temperature for the year was 71.4 and the mean relative humidity 85. The total rainfall was 60.27 inches, or 2.88 above the average for the past 10 years. The mean atmospheric pressure was 29.846.

IX.—EDUCATION.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races.

The total number of children of school age in the Colony was 3,106 in 1930. The average number of pupils registered in the schools was 3,782, and the average attendance 3,158 or 83·5 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age in 1930 are as follows :—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided Schools	713	1,903	2,616
Unaided	232	181	413
Taught at home	25	31	56
Physically or mentally unfit	11	10	21
	981	2,125	3,106

Thirty-two schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 21 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on education in 1930 was £24,673, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,457
Pension	203
Scholarships	1,244
Buildings	5,957
General Grant	15,812

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December ; and every year candidates from five of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local University, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this Scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

X.—LANDS AND SURVEYS.

An Ordnance survey of the islands was made in 1898–99. The property of the Colonial Government is limited to the public buildings and premises and a few sea beaches. Both the War Department and the Admiralty have held possession of considerable properties, but they are gradually divesting themselves of those which no longer have any value for defence purposes. The remaining land in the Colony is divided up into small areas under private ownership. There are no large estates.

A considerable number of Americans have acquired winter homes in Bermuda, but the acquisition of land by aliens is strictly controlled by law. No alien may acquire land without the permission of the Governor-in-Council and the total area which may be alienated to foreigners is limited to 2,000 acres in the whole and 400 acres in any one parish. Some 700 acres only had been so alienated up to the end of 1930.

XI.—LABOUR.

There was no appreciable unemployment during the year. The demand for labour was somewhat in excess of the supply, and the deficiency was met by the normal influx of immigrant labour. Labour conditions are favourable and high rates of wages are paid ; but, owing to the high cost of living and the limited scope for skilled labour, it is advisable for any intending immigrant to secure employment before proceeding to the Colony.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The only Legislative measures of general importance passed in 1930 were The Bermuda Merchant Shipping Act and the Public Health Act, both of which were consolidating and amending Acts.

24th August, 1931.

(12026—21) Wt. 13717—1252 625 10/31 P. St. G. 7/8

W Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64° 37'

N Lat 32° 23'

N Lat 32° 23'

A T L A N T I C O C E A N

MURRAY'S ANCHORAGE

St CATHERINE POINT

THE NARROWS

St GEORGE'S ISLAND

Barracks

St GEORGE

St GEORGE'S HARBOUR

St GEORGE'S CHANNEL

Smith's I.

STOCK'S HARBOUR

FERRY REACH

SMITH'S SOUND

St DAVID'S HEAD

St DAVID'S ISLAND

Lighthouse

Cove Point

Long Bird Island

The Causeway

CASTLE HARBOUR

Cooper's Island

Nonsuch Island

HAMILTON

HARRINGTON SOUND

SMELLY BAY

SMITH'S

Dockyard

IRELAND ISLAND

GRASSY BAY

DANIEL'S HEAD

MANGROVE BAY

BOAZ ISLAND

Watford Island

Slovel Bay

SPANISH POINT

Admiralty Ho

Government Offs

Hospital

PEMBROKE

DEVONSHIRE

Prospect Camp

Agar's I.

HAMILTON

HAMILTON or CROW LANE HARBOUR

SOMERSET ISLAND

Elizabeth I.

Hawkins I.

ELLIS HARBOUR

GREAT SOUND

Hinson I.

PAGET

Ports Island

GRANAWAY DEEP

Tucker's I.

Morgan's I.

SANDYS

LOBSTER FLAT

LITTLE SOUND

WARWICK

HOGFISH CUT

SOUTHAMPTON

Lighthouse

THE ISLANDS OF BERMUDA.

Scale of Miles

9 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

0 1 2 3 4 Miles

Parish Boundaries .....

N Lat 32° 14'

N Lat 32° 14'

W Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64° 37'

2857. 13717 A 12.52, 625, 10/31

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No. 1596

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

BERMUDA, 1931

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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the West Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ North latitude and 64° 51′ West longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population in 1931 of 27,789. The estimated density of the population is 1,407 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

History.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture*, while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group "The Somers Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Climate.

The range of temperature during 1931 was between 49.4° F. in January and 94.8° F. in August. The mean temperature for the year was 71.5° F. and the mean relative humidity 84° F. The total rain-fall was 52.7 inches, or 5.97 inches below the average for the past 10 years. The mean atmospheric pressure was 29.962.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

There are two municipalities and nine parish vestries exercising the right to impose local taxes.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

	White.		*Coloured.*		
	Male.	*Female.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*
1921 Census	3,282	3,724	6,347	6,774	20,127
1931 „	6,090	5,263	8,084	8,352	27,789
Increase	2,808	1,539	1,737	1,578	7,662
„ per cent. ...	85	41	27	23	38

	1921.	*1931.*
Births	33·18 per 1,000.	26·9 per 1,000.
Deaths	18·37 „ „	13·3 „ „
Marriages	8 „ „	10 „ „
Infantile mortality ...	135 „ „	95·8 „ „
Emigration	92 „ „	not available.
Immigration	197 „ „	„ „

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the anopheles has never existed in the islands, which have consequently been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The numbers of infectious diseases notified from 1927 to 1931 with the principal contributors, were as follows : —

	1927.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*
Chicken-pox	35	67	92	15	17
Diphtheria	19	32	175	54	8
Typhoid	14	3	4	8	4
Tuberculosis	12	10	16	13	17
Measles	2	9	6	460	142
Scarlet Fever... ...	1	1	5	—	33
Other diseases ...	32	628	222	28	52
	115	750	520	578	273

The number of deaths from infectious diseases in 1931 was as follows : 11 from tuberculosis, 18 from pneumonia.

By the inoculation of school children it is hoped to prevent a recurrence of the outbreak of diphtheria which occurred in 1929.

A District Health Officer has been appointed for the Western District and free clinics are held by him. These clinics are well attended and are proving of considerable value. It is proposed to appoint a District Health Officer for the Eastern District in the near future.

The provision of District Nurses by the Bermuda Welfare Society has contributed greatly to the general improvement in health throughout the islands.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

The housing problem is receiving consideration at the present time as rents are high and the cost of building great.

Draft regulations for the control of buildings are about to be transmitted to the Legislature.

The majority of the wage-earning population rent well-constructed stone houses.

There are several cases of overcrowding which are receiving attention.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

The principal industry of the Colony is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs.

The provision of a Government Packing House and the supervision and grading of produce are having a marked effect in increasing the popularity of Bermuda products in the Canadian markets.

The following table gives the quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported each year from 1927 to 1931, together with an estimate of the net annual value of the crop exported and consumed locally :—

	Quantity (Bushels).	*Net Bermuda Exports. Value.*	*Consumed locally. Farm value.*	*Total value of crop.*
		£	£	£
1927	371,887	133,128	191,000	324,128
1928	420,802	138,243	142,957	281,200
1929	491,500	136,013	161,587	297,600
1930	441,000	138,028	177,022	315,050
1931	212,100	121,753	143,247	265,000

Owing to the greater demand for the less valuable agricultural commodities, the total value of the crop in the last three years shows a decrease, although the quantity produced has increased.

The chief crops and their destinations in 1931 were as follows :—

Vegetable.	*Quantity.*	*Country of Destination.*
Potatoes... ...	15,028 barrels	United States of America
	273 ,,	Canada
	769 ,,	British West Indies
Celery	37,604 bushels	United States of America
	8,906 ,,	Canada
Parsley	302 ,,	United States of America
Carrots	10,956 ,,	Canada
Kale	11,199 ,,	United States of America
Onions	3,360 ,,	Canada
	52 ,,	British West Indies
Tomatoes ..	4,900 ,,	Canada

The total value of the exports to the United States was £108,627. This figure includes lily bulbs, of which 4,019 cases were shipped, to the value of £10,855. Exports to Canada were valued at £6,369 and to the West Indies at £4,009. There was no export of Bermuda produce to Great Britain.

Agriculture is almost entirely in the hands of small farmers of European descent. All holdings are of less than 10 acres. The total area cultivated was approximately 2,087 acres.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The only trade of any importance in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the great bulk of whom come from America. The majority of visitors arrive in the winter months, from the end of December until the end of April. During this period in 1931 four passenger steamers a week came to Bermuda from New York; two belonging to Messrs. Furness Withy and Company Limited, one to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, and one to the Munson Line. The Furness Company were in receipt of a subsidy at the rate of £25,000 a year.

Two fortnightly services from Canada to the British West Indies call at Bermuda on both northbound and southbound voyages: one of these services touches at Boston, Mass.

Steamers from England to the British West Indies and South America touch at Bermuda on the outbound voyage.

The summer season has been increasing steadily in popularity during the last few years: it lasts from July to October. Hotel and steamship rates are lower in summer than in winter. The number of tourists visiting the Colony during the summer season continued to show an increase in 1931.

The management of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. It is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the traffic.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table:—

	Expenditure.	*Tourists.*
	£	
1926	34,904	27,214
1927	36,694	30,816
1928	35,199	36,391
1929	50,243	39,052
1930	51,676	43,094
1931	58,499	47,376

These figures do not include 25,962 arrivals in cruise ships.

The expenditure on advertising annually is approximately £8,000 in America, £2,500 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain. Some £4,250 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamer subsidies of £28,600 are included in the expenditure of this Board. It has been estimated that the average stay of tourists is 10 days, during which each tourist will spend from £2 a day upwards.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12*s.* 6*d.* on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively l w tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the States or Canada. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1927	1,532,794	249,958
1928	1,587,470	177,015
1929	1,718,248	185,903
1930	1,954,568	191,727
1931	2,463,259	119,005

Imports.

From	1930. £	1931. £
United Kingdom	510,496	991,219
British Colonies	545,091	482,469
Foreign Countries	898,981	989,571
	£1,954,568	£2,463,259

The chief articles of imports with their values were as follows :—

Boots and shoes, £40,344 ; butter, £32,745 ; beef, £28,294 ; bran, £24,944 ; canned goods, £35,936 ; clothing, £85,912 ; cotton goods, £20,665 ; electrical goods, £167,484 ; fancy goods, £262,075 ; flour, £23,153 ; furniture, £136,660 ; groceries, £63,266 ; hardware, £93,694; meats, £44,717 ; oats, £27,137 ; poultry, £24,385 ; woollen goods, £35,786 ; fruit (fresh), £34,139 ; malt liquor, £38,210 ; whisky, £186,950.

Exports.

To	1930. £	1931. £
United Kingdom	159	—
British Colonies...	31,605	10,378
Foreign Countries	159,963	108,627
	£191,727	£119,005

Chief Articles of Export.

	1930.	1931.
	£	£
Empty oil barrels	28,268	37,801
Lily bulbs	16,706	11,305
Potatoes	44,101	16,070
Other Vegetables	93,927	24,356

Owing to the operation of the preferential tariff there was a continued marked increase in the importation of manufactured goods from the British Empire.

Competition in practically all branches of trade is keen. Import business is conducted either through local commission agents, or through the placing of orders by buyers who visit centres of production during the summer.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Agricultural labourers	8s. to 10s. a day.	54 hrs. a week.
Masons	16s. to 20s. a day.	53 hrs. a week.
Painters and carpenters	ditto.	ditto.
Building labourers ...	8s. to 10s. a day	ditto.
Cooks	£4 to £7 a month.	
Maids	£2 10s. to £4 10s a month.	
Coachmen	£1 10s. to £2 a week.	

Cost of Living.

The standard of living in Bermuda is very high, and is reflected in high prices. Practically all essentials, as well as luxuries, are more expensive than elsewhere. Prior to the opening, in November, of the Bermuda Railway, the only form of land transport other than bicycle was either by carrier 'bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3*s*. for half a mile or less and 8*s*. for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 10*d*. per kilowatt for light and 5*d*. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap costs about £200 a year.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races.

The total number of children of school age in the Colony was 3,315 in 1931. The average number of pupils registered in the schools was 3,648, and the average attendance 3,050 or 84 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age in 1931 are as follows :—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided schools	771	2,060	2,831
Unaided	236	145	381
Taught at home	28	38	66
Physically or mentally unfit	26	11	37
	1,061	2,254	3,315

Thirty schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 19 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on education in 1931 was £33,454, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,528
Pensions	203
Scholarships	1,422
Buildings	3,446
General Grant	15,031
Special Grants	11,824

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December ; and every year candidates from five of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local University, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 7,476,497 tons, an increase of 1,736,749 tons compared with 1930.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

British.

	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	2,175,146	744	2,175,890
Cleared	2,177,145	1,565	2,178,710
Total British Shipping			4,354,600

Foreign.

	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	1,554,529	6,634	1,561,163
Cleared	1,554,857	5,877	1,560,734
Total foreign shipping			3,121,897

In addition to the regular service with New York with from one to four steamers running weekly according to the season, the service with the West Indies and Canada for passengers and freight was maintained at fortnightly intervals throughout the year by the Canadian National Steamships.

Direct passenger service was maintained between England and Bermuda by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Limited. The Royal Mail Company and the London Direct Line were mainly responsible for the freight service from the United Kingdom.

Railways.

A light standard gauge railway 22 miles in length connects both ends of the island to Hamilton.

Roads.

No new roads were constructed, and no development of any importance took place.

Postal.

Four hundred and sixty-eight mails were received from overseas and 321 despatched. The volume of business generally is probably greater relatively than that of any other Colony owing to

the constant stream of tourists. The number of parcels received was 80,206. The money-order business amounted to £99,927. Of this, orders to the value of £90,134 were issued and £9,793 paid.

The transit to London for mails is usually 11 days.

The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire remains at 1*d.* per ounce or part of an ounce.

Cables and Wireless.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West Indies Company a line to Jamaica via Turks Islands. The full-rate charges are: New York 1*s.* 6*d.*, and England 2*s.* 4*d.* a word. There is a week-end letter service to Great Britain at a minimum charge of 11*s.* 8*d.* (for twenty words).

In 1925 a licence was granted to the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company granting them a monopoly of commercial wireless traffic, the right being reserved to the Government to take over the station at the end of ten or fifteen years. The station was completed by the end of 1927 but was not open for traffic. The call sign is G Z H. The system of transmission is Marconi C.W. Valve 25 KW. The wave-length is between 2,750 and 3,000 metres and the range 2,500 miles. There is also a 1.5 KW. quenched gap set, tuned to 600, 650, 750, and 800 metres for working with ship stations. Wireless telephonic communication is now maintained with New York and, by relay, to Canada and Europe.

Telephones.

There are about 1,450 miles of telephone line owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £8 10*s.* 0*d.* (residential) to £11 10*s.* 0*d.* per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges. An automatic system is about to be installed.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, WEIGHTS, AND MEASURES.

There are two private banks in the Colony, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £833,214 and £769,255, respectively.

English currency, weights, and measures are the legal standards.

Bermuda has issued £1 and 10*s.* notes to supplement the supply of English notes which is small.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The heaviest item of expenditure under this head for a number of years has been the cost of widening and deepening the approaches to the Colony by sea. A sum of £420,628 has been spent on this object since 1910. The Narrows Ship Channel has been widened to

450 feet and deepened to 31 feet throughout, and a general plan for the improvement of the Channel is being carried out.

During the year 1931, 26 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Public Works Department was on dredging, 20 per cent. on the reclamation of marshes, and 54 per cent. on general works.

A sum of £2,992 was expended on the new school for coloured children, designed to accommodate 1,000 scholars. The total cost of this school is £23,208.

The expenditure on the maintenance of the roads was £18,897.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE AND PRISONS.

The Judicial Department consists of the Supreme Court and three Magisterial Courts.

The Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and one or two Assistant Justices.

The Magisterial Courts are presided over by one Police Magistrate each.

266 persons were committed to prison during the year, as against 256 in 1930. Of these, 241 were men; 113 were first offenders, 7 were sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more, and 159 for three months or less.

1,101 persons were prosecuted, of whom 72 were discharged, 991 punished on summary conviction, and 38 convicted by the Supreme Court. Of the latter, 22 were for offences against property and 15 for offences against the person. There were no cases of manslaughter.

There are two prisons in the Colony, the one at Hamilton accommodating 45, and the one at St. George's 18 prisoners. There are no associated wards, each prisoner being provided with a cell. The male prisoners break stone for the metalling of the roads, and the female prisoners remake bedding for the Military Authorities. Considerable extra-mural labour used to be carried out, but this has been practically abandoned.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

No.	*Title.*
1.	The Glebe Act, 1931.
2.	The Bermuda Merchant Shipping Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
3.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1931.
4.	The Revenue Department Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
5.	The Customs Tariff Act, Amendment Act, 1931.
6.	The Public Carriage Act, 1931.
7.	The West End Entertainment Act, 1931.
8.	The Biological Station Act, 1931.

No.	*Title.*
9.	The Post Office Act, 1900, Amendment Act, 1931.
10.	The Summary Offences and Jurisdiction Act, 1926, Amendment Act, 1931.
11.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1930, Amendment Act (No. 2) 1931.
12.	The St. David's Island Bridge Act, 1931.
13.	The Bermuda Volunteer Act, 1921, Amendment Act, 1931.
14.	The Public Officers Leave and Relief Act, 1923, Amendment Act, 1931.
15	The St. George's Ordinance Confirmation Act, 1931.
16.	The Bermuda Cadet Corps Act, 1931.
17.	The Bermuda Development Company Act, 1931.
18.	The Companies Act, 1931.
19.	The Meteorological Station Act, 1931.
20.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act (No. 2) 1931.
21.	The Bermuda Volunteer Act, 1921, Amendment Act, 1931.
22.	The Dredger Loan Act, 1931.
23.	The Superannuation Act, 1931.
24.	The Bermuda Railway Act, 1931.
25.	The Immigration Act, 1931.
26.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act (No. 3) 1931.
27.	The Appropriation Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
28.	The Superannuation Act, 1927, Amendment Act (No. 3) 1931.
29.	The Public Works Department Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
30.	The Bermuda Welfare Society Act, 1931.
31.	The Public Health Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
32.	The Patents Designs and Trade Marks Act, 1931.
33.	The Treasury Advances Act, 1931.
34.	The Allocation of Colonial Lands Act, 1931.
35.	The Malicious Injuries to Property Act, 1931.
36.	The Smith and Scott, Limited, Act, 1931.
37.	The Justices Civil Jurisdiction Act, 1922, Amendment Act, 1931.
38.	The Immigration Act (No. 2) 1931.
39.	The Non-Resident Businesses Act, 1931.
40.	The Revenue Department Act, 1931.
41.	The Firearms Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
42.	The Public Officers' Bonds Act, 1931.
43.	The Public Carriage Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
44.	The Bermuda Merchant Shipping Act 1930, Amendment Act, 1931.
45.	The Appropriation Act, 1930, Amendment Act (No. 2) 1931.
46.	The Bermuda Railway Act, 1931.
47.	The Bermuda High School for Girls Association Act, 1931.
48.	The Horticulturist Act, 1931.
49.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1931.
50.	The Appropriation Act, 1931.
51.	The Governor's Salary Act, 1931.

The most important Acts passed during the year were No. 25, The Immigration Act; No. 39, The Non-Resident Businesses Act: and No. 51, The Governor's Salary Act.

The control of immigration was formerly divided between the Governor and a Board, but the Immigration Act placed the entire control in the hands of a special Board and put restrictions on immigration.

The Non-Resident Businesses Act makes it obligatory to have a licence to carry on any business in Bermuda.

The Governor's Salary Act provides for the payment of the whole of the Governor's emoluments, thus relieving the Imperial Treasury of the portion formerly paid from War Office and Colonial Office funds.

There was during 1931 no factory legislation, compensation for accidents, or provision for sickness or old age.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1927–1931 :—

	Revenue.	*Recurrent Expenditure.*	*Expenditure from Reserves.*
	£	£	£
1927	259,943	268,495	35,847
1928	294,174	287,224	16,418
1929	331,448	334,262	—
1930	429,190	409,572	—
1931	464,351	458,700	—

Of the total revenue for the year, £343,727 represents Customs receipts. Miscellaneous revenue amounted to £120,623.

No changes were made during the year under review in the method of raising revenue apart from certain alterations in the specific Customs duties. The increase in revenue reflects a general increase in the consumption of commodities consequent on the growth of the tourist traffic.

There is a Government Note issue of £221,289 of which notes of £1 and 10*s*. denominations to the amount of £89,954 were issued during the year.

The value of the investments held as security for this liability was £221,840 on 1st January, 1932. There is no coin reserve.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December was £97,595, against £92,094 and £91,486 in 1930 and 1929 respectively.

The public debt of the Colony stood at £131,636 at the end of the year. £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927, and the balance in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December was £27,614 3*s.* 8*d.* £70,796 borrowed in 1930 for the purchase of the new dredger is repayable in four annual payments of which one, amounting to £14,160, was made in 1931.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1931, was £113,700. The surplus monies available for general purposes on this date were £55,682.

The total assets amounted to £432,486 of which £221,840 was held for Government Notes redemption, £110,379 for the Savings Bank, and £34,686 for the Superannuation Fund.

The revenue from specific Customs tariffs was derived as follows :—

	£
From *ad valorem duties*	178,457
,, Surtax	47,362
,, Duty on spirits	28,539
,, Cigars and cigarettes ...	16,114
,, Rum	13,256
,, Malt liquor	12,126
,, Export tax	14,897

There is a stamp duty of 12*s.* 6*d.* on each passenger ticket entitling any person to leave Bermuda. It has not been possible to state the amount raised by this form of taxation as the stamps have been sold by the Post Office as well as the Treasury, but in future, under new arrangements, a check can be kept on this amount, A stamp duty of 1*d.* is payable in respect of all receipts for £1 or more and in respect of all cheques.

APPENDIX.

List of Publications.

Lefroy's History of the Bermudas ; Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswood.

Hayward's " Bermuda Past and Present " ; Messrs. Dodd Mead and Company, New York.

Departmental Reports ; Crown Agents for the Colonies, 2s. each.

(16997–28) W 15977–924 625 12/32 P. St. G. 7/8

W Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64° 37'

N Lat 32° 23'

N Lat 32° 23'

A T L A N T I C O C E A N

MURRAY'S ANCHORAGE

ST CATHERINE POINT

THE NARROWS

ST GEORGE'S ISLAND

St George

St George's Harbour

Smith's

St George's Channel

Gibbs Hill Lighthouse

Fort Ma

Long Bird Is.

Smith's Sound

PO

St David's Head

St David's Island

Lighthouse

Cove Point

CASTLE HARBOUR

Cooper's Island

Nonsuch Island

PO

HAMILTON'S

HARRINGTON SOUND

SHELLY BAY

SMITH'S

Ch

Dockyard

IRELAND ISLAND

GRASSY BAY

DANIEL'S HEAD

MANGROVE BAY

BOAZ ISLAND

Natford Islands

Slowel Bay

SPANISH POINT

Admiralty House

Government House

Hospital

Ch

PEMBROKE

DEVONSHIRE

Prospect Camp

Ch

Agar's I.

HAMILTON

HAMILTON or CROW LANE HARBOUR

SOMERSET ISLAND

Elizabeth I. or Hawkins I.

Hinson I.

PAGET

ELYS HARBOUR

GREAT SOUND

Port's Island

GRANAWAY DEEP

Sch.

SAMDYS

Tucker's I.

Morgan's I.

LOBSTER FLAT

WARWICK

Ch

PO

LITTLE SOUND

HOGFISH CUT

SOUTHAMPTON

Lighthouse

Ch

THE ISLANDS OF BERMUDA.

Scale of Miles

9 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0 0 1 2 3 4 Miles

Parish Boundaries .....

N Lat 32° 14'

N Lat 32° 14'

W Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64° 37'

1871, 1877 & 1924, 625, 11/32

Maps & Surveys

EMPIRE MARKETING BOARD PUBLICATIONS.

Note on the work of the Board and Statement of Research and other Grants approved by the Secretary of State from July, 1926, to March, 1932. Cmd. 4121. 9*d.* (10*d.*).

The Growing Dependence of British Industry upon Empire Markets. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 23.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Insect Infestation of Stored Cacao. December, 1929. (E.M.B. 24.) 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

British Industries and Empire Markets. March, 1930. (E.M.B. 26.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Canadian Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the Deterioration in Transit of Imported Canadian Fruit, 1927-29. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 30.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Production of Tung Oil in the Empire. June, 1930. (E.M.B. 31.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

Report on the Cultivation, Treatment and Prospects of Rice in British Guiana. (E.M.B. 32.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Dissemination of Research Results among Agricultural Producers. (E.M.B. 33.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

The Demand for Empire Butter. (E.M.B. 34.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

The Relative Values of Cod Liver Oils from various sources. (E.M.B. 35.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 4*d.*).

The Behaviour and Diseases of the Banana in Storage and Transport. (E.M.B. 36.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

The Demand for Canned Fruits. (E.M.B. 37.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Report of Proceedings of the Imperial Wool Research Conference, 1930. 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Fruit Supplies in 1930. (E.M.B. 38.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

Changes in the Demand for Butter. (E.M.B. 39.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 1d.).

Report on Development of Agriculture in the Bahamas. (E.M.B. 40.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Empire Marketing Board. May, 1931, to May, 1932. (E.M.B. 53.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 3*d.*).

A Preliminary Report on an investigation into the Control of West Indian Insect Pests. (E.M.B. 42.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 5*d.*).

Recent Advances in Pasture Management. (E.M.B. 43.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Dairy Research. (E.M.B. 44.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Transport and Storage of Bananas with special reference to Chilling. (E.M.B. 45.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

British Empire Hardwoods from the point of view of Turnery. 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

Wool Quality: A Study of the Influence of various contributory factors, their significance and the technique of their measurement. Cloth. £1 1*s.* (£1 1*s.* 9*d.*).

Australian and New Zealand Fruit Shipments. Report of an investigation into the deterioration in transit of Imported Australian and New Zealand Fruit, 1927–30. (E.M.B 46.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Banana Breeding at the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. (E.M.B. 47.) 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

Imperial Sugar Cane Research Conference, 1931. Report of Proceedings. 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 11*d.*).

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No. 1646

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF

BERMUDA, 1932

(For Reports for 1930 and 1931 see Nos. 1546 and 1596 respectively (price 9d. each).)

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Summary of Proceedings and Copies of Trade Agreements. [Cmd. 4174.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

Appendices to the Summary of Proceedings. [Cmd. 4175.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND CO-OPERATION.

Report of the Imperial Committee on, 1933. [Cmd. 4335.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

CONFERENCE OF EMPIRE SURVEY OFFICERS, 1931.

Report of Proceedings. [Colonial No. 70.] £1 (£1 0*s.* 9*d.*).

TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

Report by Sir Sydney Armitage-Smith, K.B.E., C.B., on a Financial Mission to. [Cmd. 4182.] 2*s.* 6*d.* (2*s.* 8*d.*).

Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Administration of, 1932. [Colonial No. 81.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 3*d.*).

MALAYA.

Report of Brig.-Gen. Sir Samuel Wilson, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.B.E., on his visit during the year 1932. [Cmd. 4276.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 1*d.*).

PAPERS RELATING TO THE HEALTH AND PROGRESS OF NATIVE POPULATIONS IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE EMPIRE.

[Colonial No. 65.] 3*s.* (3*s.* 3*d.*).

CUSTOMS TARIFFS OF THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING COLONIES, PROTECTORATES, MANDATED TERRITORIES, &c.

New Edition, 1933. [Colonial No. 83.] 7*s.* 6*d.* (8*s.*).

HONG KONG CURRENCY.

Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, May, 1931. [Cmd. 3932.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

CLOSER UNION IN EAST AFRICA, Joint Select Committee on. H.C. 156.

Vol. I.—Report and Proceedings ... 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).
Vol. II.—Minutes of Evidence ... £1 10*s.* (£1 10*s.* 9*d.*).
Vol. III.—Appendices ... ... 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 11*d.*).

CONSTITUTION OF CEYLON. [Cmd. 3862.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*).

BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.

Report of a Commission on the Financial and Economic Position of, March, 1933. [Cmd. 4368.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 9*d.*).

COLONIAL ADMINISTRATIVE LIST.

1st Edition, January, 1933. [Colonial No. 80.] 2*s.* (2*s.* 2*d.*).

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF BRITISH GUIANA.

Report of a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies. [Cmd. 3938.] 1*s.* (1*s.* 2*d.*).

MALTA ROYAL COMMISSION, 1931.

Report. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).

Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

'IRAQ.

Special Report by H.B.M. Government to the Council of the League of Nations on the Progress of, during the period 1920–1931. [Colonial No. 58.] 5*s.* 6*d.* (5*s.* 11*d.*).

Report on the Administration of, 1931. [Colonial No. 74.] 4*s.* 6*d.* (4*s.* 8*d.*).

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BERMUDA, 1932

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the West Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ North latitude and 64° 51′ West longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population in 1931 of 27,789. The estimated density of the population is 1,407 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

History.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture*, while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group "The Somers Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of Quo Warranto against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Climate.

The range of temperature during 1932 was between 48° F. in March and 91° F. in August. The mean temperature for the year was 71.5° F. and the mean relative humidity 78° F. The total rainfall was 51.69 inches, or 5.57 inches below the average for the past 10 years. The mean atmospheric pressure was 1017.5 millibars.

II. GOVERNMENT.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 1,350 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

There are two municipalities and nine parish vestries exercising the right to impose local taxes.

III.—POPULATION.

	White.		*Coloured.*		
	Male.	*Female.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*
1921 Census	3,282	3,724	6,34[illegible]	6,774	20,127
1931 „	6,090	5,263	8,084	8,352	27,789
Increase	2,808	1,539	1,7[illegible]7	1,578	7,662
„ per cent. ...	85	41	27	23	38

	1922.	*1932.*
Births	31·2 per 1,000.	26·9 per 1,000.
Deaths	18·5 „ „	13·3 „ „
Marriages	8 „ „	8 „ „
Infantile mortality ...	127 „ „	97·1 „ „
Emigration	497 „ „	—
Immigration	467 „ „	—

IV.—HEALTH.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the anopheles has never existed in the islands, which have consequently been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The numbers of infectious diseases notified from 1928 to 1932, with the principal contributors, were as follows: —

	1928.	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
Chicken-pox	67	92	15	17	61
Diphtheria	32	175	54	8	30
Typhoid	3	4	8	4	7
Tuberculosis	10	16	13	17	11
Measles	9	6	460	142	—
Scarlet Fever... ...	1	5	—	33	39
Other diseases ...	628	222	28	52	37
	750	520	578	273	185

The number of deaths from infectious diseases in 1932 was 27 divided as follows: from tuberculosis 15, septicaemia 4, other diseases 8.

By the inoculation of school children it is hoped to prevent a recurrence of the outbreak of diphtheria which occurred in 1929.

A District Health Officer has been appointed for the Western District and free clinics are held by him. These clinics are well attended and are proving of considerable value. It is proposed to appoint a District Health Officer for the Eastern District in the near future.

The provision of District Nurses by the Bermuda Welfare Society has contributed greatly to the general improvement in health throughout the islands.

V.—HOUSING.

The housing problem is receiving consideration at the present time as rents are high and the cost of building great.

Draft regulations for the control of buildings are under consideration by the Legislature.

The majority of the wage-earning population rent well-constructed stone houses.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The principal industry of the Colony is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs.

The provision of Government Packing Houses and the supervision and grading of produce are having a marked effect in increasing the popularity of Bermuda products in the Canadian markets.

COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS.

H.M. Stationery Office publishes the Annual Reports on British Colonies and Protectorates. These Reports appear each year and they are supplied at the Subscription price of 40s. per annum. (This rate does not include Mandated Territories.) Individual Reports may also be purchased and standing orders placed for their annual supply.

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BASUTOLAND.
BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.
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BRITISH GUIANA.
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BRITISH SOLOMON ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
BRUNEI, STATE OF.
CAYMAN ISLANDS (JAMAICA).
CEYLON.
COLONIAL SURVEY COMMITTEE REPORT.
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GIBRALTAR.
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SWAZILAND.
TONGAN ISLANDS PROTECTORATE.
TRENGGANU.
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO.
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS.
UGANDA.
ZANZIBAR PROTECTORATE.

MANDATED TERRITORIES.

Annual Reports are published on the undermentioned territories administered by H.M. Government under mandate from the League of Nations.

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PALESTINE AND TRANS-JORDAN.
TANGANYIKA TERRITORY.

'IRAQ.

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CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES.

Publications issued by the Governments of British Colonies, Protectorates, and Mandated Territories, can be obtained from the CROWN AGENTS FOR THE COLONIES, 4, Millbank, Westminster, S.W.1. They include Departmental Reports, Laws, Handbooks, etc.

The following table gives the quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported each year from 1928 to 1932, together with an estimate of the net annual value of the crop exported and consumed locally :—

	Quantity (Bushels).	*Net Bermuda Exports. Value.* £	*Consumed locally. Farm value.* £	*Total value of crop.* £
1928	420,802	138,243	142,957	281,200
1929	491,500	136,013	161,587	297,600
1930	441,000	138,028	177,022	315,050
1931	212,100	121,753	143,247	265,000
1932	315,000	49,465	189,235	238,700

The chief crops and their destinations in 1932 were as follows :—

Vegetable.	*Quantity.*	*Country of Destination.*
Potatoes... ...	28,184 bushels	United States of America
,,	7,397 ,,	Canada
,,	344 ,,	British West Indies
Celery	2,532 ,,	United States of America
,,	46,472 ,,	Canada
Carrots	17,773 ,,	Canada
Kale	14,544 ,,	United States of America
Onions	29,034 ,,	Canada
,,	329 ,,	British West Indies
Tomatoes ...	10,238 ,,	Canada

The total value of the exports of local products to the United States was £64,592. This figure includes lily bulbs, of which 2,482 cases were shipped, to the value of £7,257. Exports to Canada were valued at £28,698 and to the West Indies at £171. There was no export of Bermuda produce to Great Britain.

Agriculture is almost entirely in the hands of small farmers of European descent. All holdings are of less than 10 acres. The total area cultivated was approximately 2,087 acres.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The only trade of any importance in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the great bulk of whom come from America. The majority of visitors arrive in the winter months, from the end of December until the end of April. During this period in 1932 three passenger steamers a week came to Bermuda from New York ; two belonging to Messrs. Furness Withy and Company Limited, and one to the Munson Line. The Furness Company were in receipt of a subsidy at the rate of £25,000 a year.

Two fortnightly services from Canada to the British West Indies call at Bermuda on both northbound and southbound voyages ; one of these services touches at Boston, Mass.

Steamers from England to the British West Indies and South America touch at Bermuda on the outbound voyage.

The summer season has been increasing steadily in popularity during the last few years; it lasts from July to October. Hotel and steamship rates are lower in summer than in winter. The number of tourists visiting the Colony during the summer season continued to show an increase in 1932.

The management of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. It is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the traffic.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table:—

	Expenditure.	*Tourists.*
	£	
1928	35,199	36,391
1929	50,243	39,052
1930	51,676	43,094
1931	58,499	47,376
1932	56,005	44,000

These figures do not include 23,000 arrivals in cruise ships.

The expenditure on advertising annually is approximately £8,000 in America, £2,500 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain. Some £4,250 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamer subsidies of £28,600 are included in the expenditure of this Board.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12s. 6d. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the States or Canada. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows:—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1928	1,587,470	177,015
1929	1,718,248	185,903
1930	1,954,568	191,727
1931	2,463,259	119,005
1932	1,891,526	93,461

Imports.

From	*1931.* £	*1932.* £
United Kingdom	991,219	717,213
British Colonies	482,469	487,887
Foreign Countries	989,571	686,426
	£2,463,259	£1,891,526

The chief articles of import with their values were as follows :—

Boots and shoes, £36,335 ; butter, £33,499 ; beef, £63,049 ; bran, £7,683 ; canned meats, £12,760 ; clothing, £151,616 ; electrical goods, £50,047 ; fancy goods, £148,593 ; furniture, £44,178 ; hardware, £36,755 ; meats, £141,254 ; oats, £33,112 ; poultry, £23,484 ; fruit (fresh), £38,194 ; malt liquor, £38,341 ; whisky, £159,078.

Exports.

To	*1931.* £	*1932.* £
United Kingdom	—	—
British Colonies...	10,378	28,869
Foreign Countries	108,627	64,592
	£119,005	£93,461

Chief Articles of Export.

	1931. £	*1932.* £
Lily bulbs	11,305	7,331
Potatoes	16,070	28,750
Other Vegetables	24,356	51,832

Owing to the operation of the preferential tariff there was a continued marked increase in the importation of manufactured goods from the British Empire.

Competition in practically all branches of trade is keen. Import business is conducted either through local commission agents, or through the placing of orders by buyers who visit centres of production during the summer.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Agricultural labourers	8s. to 10s. a day.	54 hours a week.
Masons	16s. to 20s. a day.	53 hours a week.
Painters and carpenters	ditto.	ditto.
Building labourers ...	8s. to 10s. a day	ditto.
Cooks	£4 to £7 a month.	
Maids	£2 10s. to £4 10s. a month.	
Coachmen	£1 10s. to £2 a week.	

Cost of Living.

The standard of living in Bermuda is very high, and is reflected in high prices. Practically all essentials, as well as luxuries, are more expensive than elsewhere. Prior to the opening, in November, 1931, of the Bermuda Railway, the only form of land transport other than bicycle was either by carrier 'bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3*s*. for half a mile or less and 8*s*. for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 10*d*. per kilowatt for light and 5*d*. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap costs about £200 a year.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races.

The total number of children of school age in the Colony was 3,479 in 1932. The average number of pupils registered in the schools was 4,116, and the average attendance 3,050 or 87 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age in 1932 are as follows :—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided schools	826	2,137	2,963
Unaided	225	183	408
Taught at home	19	38	57
Physically or mentally unfit	29	22	51
	1,099	2,380	3,479

Thirty schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 19 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on education in 1932 was £29,949, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,507
Pensions	251
Scholarships	1,220
Buildings	1,041
General Grant	19,229
Special Grants	6,700

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December ; and every year candidates from five of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local university, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

(*c*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £300 for one year at a University Training Department in Great Britain.

(*d*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £200 for one year at an approved Training College in Great Britain.

(*e*) Two Scholarships for two years each at a Training College in Jamaica of an annual value of £110 for a man and £90 for a woman.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 7,794,558 tons, an increase of 318,061 tons compared with 1931.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

British.

	Steam. Tons.	*Sail.* Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
Entered	2,801,288	513	2,801,801
Cleared	2,799,477	489	2,799,966
Total British shipping			5,601,767

Foreign.

	Steam. Tons.	*Sail.* Tons.	*Total.* Tons.
Entered	1,090,800	3,331	1,094,131
Cleared	1,095,281	3,379	1,098,660
Total foreign shipping			2,192,791

In addition to the regular service with New York with from one to four steamers running weekly according to the season, the service with the West Indies and Canada for passengers and freight was maintained at fortnightly intervals throughout the year by the Canadian National Steamships.

Direct passenger service was maintained between England and Bermuda by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Limited. The Royal Mail Company and the London Direct Line were mainly responsible for the freight service from the United Kingdom.

Railways.

A light standard gauge railway 22 miles in length connects both ends of the island to Hamilton.

Roads.

No new roads were constructed, and no development of any importance took place.

Postal.

Five hundred and seventy-five mails were received from overseas and 265 despatches. The volume of business generally is probably greater relatively than that of any other Colony owing to the constant stream of tourists. The number of parcels received was 51,813. The money order business amounted to £70,360. Of this, orders to the value of £65,773 were issued and £4,587 paid.

The transit to London for mails is usually eleven days.

The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire remains at 1d. per ounce or part of an ounce.

Cables and Wireless.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West Indies Company a line to Jamaica via Turks Islands. The full-rate charges are: New York 1*s.* 6*d.*, and England 2*s.* 4*d.* a word. There is a week-end letter service to Great Britain at a minimum charge of 11*s.* 8*d.* (for twenty words).

In 1925 a licence was granted to the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company granting them a monopoly of commercial wireless traffic, the right being reserved to the Government to take over the station at the end of ten or fifteen years. The station was completed by the end of 1927 but was not open for traffic. The call sign is G Z H. The system of transmission is Marconi C.W. Valve 25 KW. The wave-length is between 2,750 and 3,000 metres and the range 2,500 miles. There is also a 1.5 KW. quenched gap set, tuned to 600, 650, 750, and 800 metres for working with ship stations. Wireless telephonic communication is now maintained with New York and, by relay, to Canada and Europe.

Telephones.

There are about 1,450 miles of telephone line owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £12 (residential) to £20 per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges. The system is automatic throughout the Colony.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are two private banks in the Colony, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £879,243 and £798,597 respectively.

English currency, weights, and measures are the legal standards.

Bermuda has issued £1 and 10s. notes to supplement the supply of English notes which is small.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The heaviest item of expenditure under this head for a number of years has been the cost of widening and deepening the approaches to the Colony by sea. A sum of £459,543 has been spent on this object since 1910. The Narrows Ship Channel has been widened to 450 feet and deepened to 31 feet throughout, and a general plan for the improvement of the Channel is being carried out.

During the year 1932, 25 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Public Works Department was on dredging and 75 per cent. on general works.

The expenditure on the maintenance of the roads was £19,805.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND PRISONS.

The Judicial Department consists of the Supreme Court and three Magisterial Courts.

The Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and one or two Assistant Justices.

The Magisterial Courts are presided over by one Police Magistrate each.

280 persons were committed to prison during the year, as against 266 in 1931. Of these 240 were men; 156 were first offenders. 8 were sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more, and 127 for three months or less.

1,323 persons were prosecuted, of whom 29 were discharged, 1,225 punished on summary conviction, and 43 convicted by the Supreme Court. Of the latter, 32 were for offences against property and 11 for offences against the person. There were no cases of manslaughter.

There are two prisons in the Colony, the one at Hamilton accommodating 45, and the one at St. George's 18 prisoners. There are no associated wards, each prisoner being provided with a cell. The male prisoners break stone for the metalling of the roads, and the female prisoners remake bedding for the Military Authorities. Extra-mural labour is carried out by the male prisoners.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

No.	*Title.*
1.	The Patents Designs and Trade Marks Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1932.
2.	The Bermuda Railway Refund Act, 1932.
3.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1932.
4.	The King Edward VII Memorial Hospital Act, 1925, Amendment Act, 1932.
5.	The Bermuda Coal Company Act, 1932.
6.	The New York Communication Act, 1932.
7.	The Assistant Curator of the Aquarium Act, 1932.
8.	The Registration Act, 1914, Amendment Act, 1932.
9.	The Director of Public Works Act, 1932.
10.	The Treasury Payments Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1932.
11.	The Treasury Payments Act, 1930, Amendment Act (No. 2) 1932.
12.	The St. David's Island Bridge Act, 1931, Amendment Act, 1932.
13.	The Appropriation Act, 1931, Amendment Act, 1932.
14.	The John Howard Sempill Act, 1932.
15.	The Summary Offences Act, 1926, Amendment Act, 1932.
16.	The Public Carriage Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1932.
17.	The Municipalities Act, 1923, Amendment Act, 1932.
18.	The Passport Act, 1932.
19.	The Board of Trade Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1932.
20.	The Treasury Payments Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1932.
21.	The Trade Development Act, 1913, Amendment Act, 1932.
22.	The Watlington Waterworks Act, 1932.
23.	The Revenue Act, 1898, Amendment Act, 1932.
24.	The Bermuda Fire and Marine Insurance Company Act, 1932.
25.	The Public Health Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1932.
26.	The Summary Offences Act, 1926, Amendment Act (No. 2), 1932.
27.	The Immigration Act, 1931, Amendment Act, 1932.
28.	The Poor Relief Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1932.
29.	The King Edward VII Memorial Hospital Act, 1925, Amendment Act (No. 2), 1932.
30.	The Elbow Beach Hotel and Development Company Act, 1932.
31.	The Gerald H. Gray Pension Act, 1932.
32.	The Post Office Act, 1900, Amendment Act, 1932.
33.	The Imperial Preference Act, 1932.
34.	The Governor's Salary Act, 1932.
35.	The Canadian National Steamships, Ltd., Subsidy Act, 1932.
36.	The Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1932.
37.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1932.
38.	The Appropriation Act, 1932.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1928–1932 :—

	Revenue.	*Recurrent Expenditure.*	*Expenditure for Reserves.*
	£	£	£
1928	294,174	287,224	16,418
1929	331,448	334,262	—
1930	429,190	409,572	—
1931	464,351	458,700	—
1932	462,607	443,501	—

Of the total revenue for the year, £271,607 represents Customs receipts, and £55,682 balance from 1931.

No changes were made during the year under review in the method of raising revenue apart from certain alterations in the specific Customs duties.

There is a Government Note issue of £1 and 10s. denominations. Notes in circulation 31st December, 1932, amounted to £194,690.

The value of the investments held as security for this liability was £245,961 on 1st January, 1933. There is no coin reserve.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December was £98,692, against £97,595 and £92,094 in 1931 and 1930 respectively.

The public debt of the Colony stood at £131,636 at the end of the year. A sum of £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927, and the balance in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December was £34,721. The sum of £70,796 borrowed in 1930 for the purchase of the new dredger is repayable in four annual payments.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1932, was £198,477. The surplus monies available for general purposes on this date were £19,106.

The total assets amounted to £491,859 of which £245,961 was held for Government Notes redemption, £145,618 for the Savings Bank, and £46,837 for the Superannuation Fund.

The revenue from specific Customs tariffs was derived as follows :—

	£
From *ad valorem* duties	127,754
,, surtax	36,204
,, duty on spirits	25,137
,, cigars and cigarettes	15,059
,, rum	14,107
,, malt liquor	11,083
,, export tax	11,086

There is a stamp duty of 12s. 6d. on each passenger ticket entitling any person to leave Bermuda. Revenue from this source is about £30,000. A stamp duty of 1d. is payable in respect of all receipts for £1 or more and in respect of all cheques.

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A T L A N T I C O C E A N

MURRAY'S ANCHORAGE

St GEORGE'S ISLAND

St CATHERINE POINT

THE NARROWS

Barracks

St GEORGE

St GEORGE'S HARBOUR

Smith's I

St DAVID'S HEAD

St DAVID'S ISLAND

Lighthouse

Cove Point

FERRY REACH

Long Bird Island

CASTLE HARBOUR

Cooper's Island

Nonsuch Island

HAMILTON

HARRINGTON SOUND

SMELLY BAY

SMITH'S

PEMBROKE

DEVONSHIRE

Prospect Camp

Hospital

Admiralty House

Spanish Point

Agar's I

HAMILTON

HAMILTON or CROW LANE HARBOUR

PAGET

Hinson I

Ports Island

GRANAWAY DEEP

Elizabeth I

Hawkins I

GREAT SOUND

Dockyard

IRELAND ISLAND

GRASSY BAY

DANIEL'S HEAD

MANGROVE BAY

BOAZ ISLAND

Watford Island

SOMERSET ISLAND

ELY'S HARBOUR

SANDYS

LOBSTER FLAT

Tucker's I

Morgan's I

LITTLE SOUND

WARWICK

HOGFISH CUT

SOUTHAMPTON

Lighthouse

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Scale of Miles.

0 1 2 3 4 Miles

Parish Boundaries

W Lon 64° 54'
467, 2011, 3111, 625, 11/33.

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[*Continued on page 3 of cover*

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BERMUDA, 1933

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the West Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ North latitude and 64° 51′ West longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population in 1931 of 27,789. The estimated density of the population is 1,407 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

History.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture*, while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group "The Somers Islands". The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands".

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of *Quo Warranto* against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Climate.

The range of temperature during 1933 was between 48° F. in January and 90° F. in July. The mean temperature for the year was 71.° F. and the mean relative humidity 77° F. The total rainfall was 1,380 m.m., or 103.4 m.m. below the average for the past 30 years. The mean atmospheric pressure was 1,017.3 millibars.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 2,608 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

There are two municipalities and nine parish vestries exercising the right to impose local taxes.

III.—POPULATION.

	White.		*Coloured*		
	Male.	*Female.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*
1921 Census	3,282	3,724	6,347	6,774	20,127
1931 „	6,090	5,263	8,084	8,352	27,789
Increase	2,808	1,539	1,737	1,578	7,662
„ per cent. ...	85	41	27	23	38

	1923.	*1933.*
Births	33·2 per 1,000.	29·09 per 1,000.
Deaths	16·4 „ „	12·02 „ „
Marriages	8·8 „ „	7·1 „ „
Infantile mortality ..	94 „ „	69·6 „ „
Emigration	507	—
Immigration	676	—

IV.—HEALTH.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the anopheles has never existed in the islands, which have consequently been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The numbers of infectious diseases notified from 1929 to 1933, with the principal contributors, were as follows :—

	1929.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
Chicken-pox	92	15	17	61	15
Diphtheria	175	54	8	30	23
Typhoid	4	8	4	7	4
Tuberculosis	16	13	17	11	13
Measles	6	460	142	—	8
Scarlet fever... ...	5	—	33	39	8
Whooping cough ...	167	2	7	22	199
Other diseases ...	55	26	45	15	12
	520	578	273	185	282

The number of deaths from infectious diseases in 1933 was 15, divided as follows :—from tuberculosis 7, septicaemia 8, tetanus 2.

The inoculation of school children to prevent a recurrence of the outbreak of diphtheria which occurred in 1929 is being continued with good effect.

District Health Officers have been appointed for the Western and Eastern Districts and free clinics are held by them. These clinics are well attended and are proving of considerable value.

The provision of District Nurses by the Bermuda Welfare Society continues to contribute greatly to the general improvement in health throughout the islands.

V.—HOUSING.

The housing problem is receiving consideration at the present time as rents are high and the cost of building great.

Draft regulations for the control of buildings are under consideration by the Legislature.

The majority of the wage-earning population own or rent well-constructed stone houses.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The principal industry of the Colony is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs.

The provision of Government packing houses and the supervision and grading of produce are having a marked effect in increasing the popularity of Bermuda products in the Canadian markets.

The following table gives the quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported each year from 1929 to 1933, together with an estimate of the net annual value of the crop exported and consumed locally :—

	Quantity (bushels).	*Net Bermuda exports. Value.* £	*Consumed locally. Farm value.* £	*Total value of crop.* £
1929	491,500	136,013	161,587	297,600
1930	441,000	138,028	177,022	315,050
1931	212,100	121,753	143,247	265,000
1932	315,000	49,465	189,235	238,700
1933	349,000	36,525	168,500	205,025

The chief crops and their destinations in 1933 were as follows :—

Vegetable.	*Quantity.*	*Country of Destination.*
Potatoes... ...	29,771 bushels	United States of America
,,	14,459 ,,	Canada
,,	358 ,,	British West Indies
Celery	1,908 ,,	Canada
,,	766 ,,	United States of America
Carrots	26,005 ,,	Canada
Kale	9,294 ,,	United States of America
Onions	20,890 ,,	Canada
,,	1,573 ,,	British West Indies
Tomatoes ...	13,852 ,,	Canada

The total value of the exports of local products was £62,588. This figure includes lily bulbs, of which 1,507 cases were shipped, to the value of £4,910.

Agriculture is almost entirely in the hands of small farmers of European descent. All holdings are of less than 10 acres. The total area cultivated was approximately 2,087 acres.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The only trade of any importance in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the great bulk of whom come from America. The majority of visitors arrive in the winter months, from the end of December until the end of April. During this period in 1933 three passenger steamers a week came to Bermuda from New York ; two belonging to Messrs. Furness Withy and Company Limited, and one to the Munson Line. The Furness Company were in receipt of a subsidy at the rate of £25,000 a year.

Two fortnightly services from Canada to the British West Indies call at Bermuda on both northbound and southbound voyages one of these services touches at Boston, Mass.

Steamers from England to the British West Indies and South America touch at Bermuda on the outbound voyage.

The summer season has been increasing steadily in popularity during the last few years ; it lasts from July to October. Hotel and steamship rates are lower in summer than in winter. The number of tourists visiting the Colony during the summer season continued to show an increase in 1933.

The management of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. It is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the traffic.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table :—

	Expenditure.	*Tourists.*
	£	
1929	50,243	39,052
1930	51,676	43,094
1931	58,499	47,376
1932	56,005	44,000
1933	61,270	39,878

The 1933 figures do not include 22,096 arrivals in cruise ships.

The expenditure on advertising annually is approximately £15,000 in the United States of America, £2,800 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain. Some £4,000 are spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamer subsidies of £31,900 are included in the expenditure of this Board.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12s. 6d. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the United States or Canada. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1929	1,718,248	185,903
1930	1,954,568	191,727
1931	2,463,259	119,005
1932	1,891,526	93,461
1933	1,397,066	119,578

Imports.

From—	*1932.* £	*1933.* £
United Kingdom	717,213	506,383
British Colonies	487,887	317,111
Foreign Countries	686,426	573,572
	£1,891,526	£1,397,066

The chief articles of import with their values were as follows :—

Boots and shoes, £27,343 ; butter, £25,756 ; beef, £58,894 ; bran, £6,687 ; clothing, £159,446 ; electrical goods, £39,425 ; fancy goods, £87,031 ; furniture, £32,098 ; oats, £24,580 ; poultry, £16,468 ; fruit (fresh), £29,466 ; malt liquor, £25,476 ; whisky, £36,852.

Exports.

To—	*1932.* £	*1933.* £
United Kingdom	—	190
British Colonies...	28,869	43,082
Foreign Countries	64,592	76,306
	£93,461	£119,578

Chief Articles of Export.

	1932. £	*1933.* £
Lily bulbs	7,331	4,910
Potatoes	28,750	24,636
Other vegetables	51,832	27,693

Competition in practically all branches of trade is keen. Import business is conducted either through local commission agents, or through the placing of orders by buyers who visit centres of production during the summer.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Agricultural labourers	8s. to 10s. a day. 54 hours a week.
Masons	16s. to 20s. a day. 53 hours a week.
Painters and carpenters	14s. to 20s. a day. ditto.
Building labourers ...	8s. to 10s. a day ditto.
Cooks	£4 to £7 a month.
Maids	£2 10s. to £4 10s. a month.
Coachmen	£1 10s. to £2 a week.

Cost of Living.

The standard of living in Bermuda is very high, and is reflected in high prices. Practically all essentials, as well as luxuries, are more expensive than elsewhere. Prior to the opening, in November, 1931,

of the Bermuda Railway, the only form of land transport other than bicycle was either by carrier bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3*s*. for half a mile or less and 8*s*. for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 9*d*. per kilowatt for light and 4*d*. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap costs about £200 a year.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are in practice and by consent separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races. The total number of children of school age in the Colony was 4,212 in 1933. The average number of pupils registered in the schools was 4,116, and the average attendance 3,457 or 85 per cent. The drop in percentage of attendance from 87 in 1932 to 85 in 1933 was largely due to the epidemic of whooping cough.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age in 1933 are as follows :—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided schools	841	2,189	3,030
Unaided ,, ...	191	230	421
Taught at home	28	49	77
Physically or mentally unfit	30	20	50
	1,090	2,488	3,578

Thirty schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 19 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on education in 1933 was £27,343, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,525
Pensions	246
Scholarships	1,030
Buildings	601
General Grant	19,581
Special Grants	4,360

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December ; and every year candidates from five of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local university, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

(*c*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £300 for one year at a University Training Department in Great Britain.

(*d*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £200 for one year at an approved Training College in Great Britain.

(*e*) Two Scholarships for two years each at a Training College in Jamaica of an annual value of £110 for a man and £90 for a woman.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 6,638,051 tons.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

	British.		
	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	2,480,746	335	2,481,081
Cleared	2,476,530	335	2,476,865
Total British shipping			4,957,946

	Foreign.		
	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	838,918	3,611	842,529
Cleared	833,975	3,611	837,586
Total foreign shipping			1,680,115

In addition to the regular service with New York with from one to four steamers running weekly according to the season, the service with the West Indies and Canada for passengers and freight was maintained at fortnightly intervals throughout the year by the Canadian National Steamships.

Direct passenger service was maintained between England and Bermuda by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Limited. The Royal Mail Company and the London Direct Line were mainly responsible for the freight service from the United Kingdom.

Railways.

A light standard gauge railway 22 miles in length connects both ends of the island to Hamilton.

Roads.

Two new by-pass roads were constructed during the year. No other development of any importance took place.

Postal.

Three hundred and fifty-six mails were received from overseas and 251 despatches. The volume of business generally is probably greater relatively than that of any other Colony owing to the constant stream of tourists. The number of parcels received was 62,626. The money order business amounted to £64,487. Of this, orders to the value of £60,159 were issued and £4,328 paid.

The transit to London for mails is usually eleven days.

The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire remains at 1d. per ounce or part of an ounce.

Cables and Wireless.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West Indies Company a line to Jamaica via Turks Islands. The full-rate charges are: New York 1*s.* 6*d.*, and England 2*s.* 4*d.* a word. There is a week-end letter service to Great Britain at a minimum charge of 11*s.* 8*d.* (for twenty words).

In 1925 a licence was granted to the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company granting them a monopoly of commercial wireless traffic, the right being reserved to the Government to take over the station at the end of ten or fifteen years. The station was completed by the end of 1927 but was not open for traffic. The call sign is G Z H. The system of transmission is Marconi C.W. Valve 25 KW. The wave-length is between 2,750 and 3,000 metres and the range 2,500 miles. There is also a 1.5 KW. quenched gap set, tuned to 600, 650, 750, and 800 metres for working with ship stations. Wireless telephonic communication is now maintained with New York and, by relay, to Canada, Europe, Bahamas, Hawaii, Mexico, and Cuba as well as to ships at sea.

Telephones.

There are about 1,500 miles of telephone line owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £12 (residential) to £20 per annum. There is no limit to

the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges. The system is automatic throughout the Colony. The number of subscribers is 1,650.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are two private banks in the Colony, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £745,380 and £806,354 respectively.

English currency, weights and measures are the legal standards.

Bermuda has issued £1 and 10s. notes to supplement the supply of English notes, which is small.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The heaviest item of expenditure under this head for a number of years has been the cost of widening and deepening the approaches to the Colony by sea. A sum of £492,841 has been spent on this object since 1910. The Narrows Ship Channel has been widened to 450 feet and deepened to 31 feet throughout, and a general plan for the improvement of the Channel is being carried out.

During the year 1933, 32 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Public Works Department was on dredging and 68 per cent. on general works.

The expenditure on the provision and maintenance of the roads was £26,340.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND PRISONS.

The Judicial Department consists of the Supreme Court and three Magisterial Courts.

The Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and one or two Assistant Justices.

The Magisterial Courts are presided over by one Police Magistrate each.

During the year 301 persons were committed to prison as against 280 in 1932. Of these 269 were men; 54 were first offenders, 8 were sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more, and 91 for three months or less.

During the year 1,252 persons were prosecuted, of whom 102 were discharged, 1,080 punished on summary conviction, and 69 convicted for offences against property and 22 for offences against the person.

There are two prisons in the Colony, the one at Hamilton accommodating 45 prisoners, and the one at St. George's 18 prisoners.

There are no associated wards, each prisoner being provided with a cell. The male prisoners break stone for the metalling of the roads, and the female prisoners remake bedding for the Military Authorities. Extra-mural labour is carried out by the male prisoners.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The Acts passed during 1933 included the following:—

No.	*Title.*
1.	The Immigration Act, 1931, Amendment Act, 1933.
2.	The Juvenile Offenders Act, 1933.
3.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act (No. 1), 1933.
5.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1932, Amendment Act, 1933.
6.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1932, Amendment Act (No. 2), 1933.
10.	The Stamp Duties Act, 1919, Amendment Act, 1933.
12.	The Criminal Code Amendment Act, 1933.
14.	The Appeals Act, 1905, Amendment Act, 1933.
15.	The Board of Trade Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1933.
17.	The Parliamentary Election Act, 1928, Amendment Act, 1933.
19.	The Immigration Act, 1931, Amendment Act (No. 2), 1933.
20.	The Patents Designs and Trade Marks Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1933.
22.	The Public Health Act, 1930, Amendment Act (No. 2), 1933.
23.	The Alien Act, 1926, Amendment Act, 1933.
24.	The Legitimacy Act, 1933.
26.	The Public Health Act, 1930, Amendment Act (No. 3), 1933.
27.	The Superannuation Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1933.
28.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act (No. 2), 1933.
32.	The Police Establishment Act, 1933.
37.	The Superannuation Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1933.
38.	The Interpretation Act, 1907, Amendment Act, 1933.
39.	The Summary Offences Act, 1926, Amendment Act, 1933.
42.	The Stamp Duties Act, 1933.
47.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1933.
48.	The Appropriation Act, 1933.
49.	The Pilotage Superannuation Act, 1933.
50.	The Patents Designs and Trade Marks Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1933.
51.	The Police Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1933.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1929–1933 :—

	Revenue.	*Recurrent Expenditure.*	*Expenditure from Reserves.*
	£	£	£
1929	331,448	334,262	—
1930	429,190	409,572	—
1931	464,351	458,700	—
1932	462,607	443,501	—
1933	438,226	414,667	—

Of the total revenue for the year, £235,748 represents Customs receipts, and £19,105 11s. 0d. the balance from 1932.

No changes were made during the year under review in the method of raising revenue apart from certain alterations in the specific Customs duties.

There is a Government Note issue of £1 and 10s. denominations. Notes in circulation at 31st December, 1933, amounted to £171,817.

The value of the investments held as security for this liability was £211,758 on 1st January, 1934. There is no coin reserve, but a liquid reserve of £10,000 is maintained in England in addition to the invested reserve.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December was £90,503, against £98,692 and £97,595 in 1932 and 1931 respectively.

The public debt of the Colony stood at £117,476 at the end of the year. A sum of £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927, and the balance in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December was £38,053.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1933, was £171,635.

The total assets amounted to £433,956 of which £221,758 was held for Government Notes redemption, £102,994 for the Savings Bank, and £51,152 for the Superannuation Fund.

The revenue from specific Customs tariffs was derived as follows :—

	£
From *ad valorem* duties	97,417
,, surtax	28,943
,, duty on spirits	20,208
,, cigars and cigarettes	14,398
,, rum	13,738
,, malt liquor	8,826
,, export tax	9,100

There is a stamp duty of 12s. 6d. on each passenger ticket entitling any person to leave Bermuda. Revenue from this source is about £31,000. A stamp duty of 1d. is payable in respect of all receipts for £1 or more and in respect of all cheques.

(26257–48) Wt. 2255—3290 575 12/34 P. St. G. 377/7

W Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64°37'

N Lat 32°23'

N Lat 32°23'

A T L A N T I C O C E A N

MURRAY'S ANCHORAGE

St CATHERINE POINT

THE NARROWS

St GEORGE'S ISLAND

Dr Barracks

St GEORGE

St GEORGE'S HARBOUR

St GEORGE'S CHANNEL

Smith's

PO

STOCK'S HARBOUR

FERRY REACH

SMITH'S SOUND

St DAVID'S HEAD

St DAVID'S ISLAND

Lighthouse

Cove Point

Long Bird Island

The Causeway

CASTLE HARBOUR

Cooper's Island

Nonsuch Island

PO

HAMILTON

Ch

HARRINGTON SOUND

SHELLY BAY

PO

SMITH'S

Ch

IRELAND ISLAND

Dockyard

GRASSY BAY

DANIEL'S HEAD

MANGROVE BAY

BOAZ ISLAND

Watford Island

Ch

SOMERSET ISLAND

Elizabeth I.

Hawkins I.

ELY'S HARBOUR

GREAT SOUND

Stovell Bay

SPANISH POINT

Admiralty House

Government House

Hospital

Ch

PEMBROKE

DEVONSHIRE

Ch

Prospect Camp

Agar's I.

HAMILTON

HAMILTON or CROW LANE HARBOUR

Hinson I.

PAGET

Ports Island

GRANAWAY DEEP

Sch.

Tucker's I.

Morgan's I.

SANDYS

LOBSTER FLAT

WARWICK

Ch

LITTLE SOUND

PO

HOGFISH CUT

SOUTHAMPTON

Lighthouse

Ch

THE ISLANDS OF BERMUDA.

Scale of Miles.

9 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

0 1 2 3 4 Miles.

Parish Boundaries .....

N Lat 32°..

N Lat 32°14'

W. Lon. 64° 54'

W Lon 64°37'

814, 2255 4320, 575, 11/94.

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Reports, etc., of Imperial and Colonial Interest

MIGRATION.
Report to the Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs of the Inter-Departmental Committee on Migration Policy. [Cmd. 4689.] 1*s.* 6*d.* (1*s.* 8*d.*)

MALTA.
Report of Royal Commission, 1931. [Cmd. 3993.] 3*s.* 6*d.* (3*s.* 11*d.*).
Minutes of Evidence. [Colonial No. 68.] 5*s.* (5*s.* 9*d.*).

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BERMUDA, 1934

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, HISTORY, AND CLIMATE.

Geography.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the West Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ North latitude and 64° 51′ West longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population in 1931 of 27,789. The estimated density of the population is 1,407 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

History.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island "La Barmuda" in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture*, while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group "The Somers Islands". The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called "the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands".

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of *Quo Warranto* against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

Climate.

The range of temperature during 1934 was between 44·8° F. in February and 90·6° F. in July. The mean temperature for the year was 71° F. and the mean relative humidity 71·4° F. The total rainfall was 1,486·6 mm., or 3.2 mm. above the average for the past 30 years. The mean atmospheric pressure was 1,019.1 millibars.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, three of whom are official and six unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance. There are about 2,456 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only.

There are two municipalities and nine parish vestries exercising the right to impose local taxes.

III.—POPULATION.

	White.		*Coloured.*		
	Male.	*Female.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*
1921 Census	3,282	3,724	6,347	6,774	20,127
1931 „	6,090	5,263	8,084	8,352	27,789
Increase	2,808	1,539	1,737	1,578	7,662
„ per cent. ...	85	41	27	23	38

	1924.	*1934.*
Births	30·7 per 1,000.	29·09 per 1,000.
Deaths	15·5 „ „	12·02 „ „
Marriages	9·7 „ „	8·6 „ „
Infantile mortality ...	103 „ „	49·8 „ „

IV.—HEALTH.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the anopheles has never existed in the islands, which have consequently been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The numbers of infectious diseases notified from 1930 to 1934, with the principal contributors, were as follows :—

	1930.	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*
Chicken-pox	15	17	61	15	60
Diphtheria	54	8	30	23	14
Typhoid	8	4	7	4	5
Tuberculosis	13	17	11	13	14
Measles	460	142	—	8	5
Scarlet fever... ...	—	33	39	8	7
Whooping cough ...	2	7	22	199	—
Other diseases ...	26	45	15	12	61
	578	273	185	282	166

The number of deaths from infectious diseases in 1934 was 19, divided as follows :—from tuberculosis 9, septicaemia 4, tetanus 2.

The inoculation of school children to prevent a recurrence o the outbreak of diphtheria which occurred in 1929 is being continued with good effect.

District Health Officers have been appointed for the Western and Eastern Districts and free clinics are held by them. These clinics are well attended and continue to prove of great value.

The provision of District Nurses by the Bermuda Welfare Society continues to contribute greatly to the general improvement in health throughout the islands.

V.—HOUSING.

The housing problem is receiving consideration at the present time as rents are high and the cost of building great.

Draft regulations for the control of buildings are still under consideration by the Legislature.

The majority of the wage-earning population own or rent well-constructed stone houses.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The principal industry of the Colony is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs.

The provision of Government packing houses and the supervision and grading of produce are having a marked effect in increasing the popularity of Bermuda products in the Canadian markets.

The following table gives the quantities of potatoes, onions, and other vegetables exported each year from 1930 to 1934, together with an estimate of the net annual value of the crop exported and consumed locally :—

	Quantity (bushels).	*Net Bermuda exports. Value.* £	*Consumed locally. Farm value.* £	*Total value of crop.* £
1930	441,000	138,028	177,022	315,050
1931	212,100	121,753	143,247	265,000
1932	315,000	49,465	189,235	238,700
1933	349,000	36,525	168,500	205,025
1934	349,000	33,000	168,500	201,500

The chief crops and their destinations in 1934 were as follows :—

Vegetable.	*Quantity.*	*Country of Destination.*
Potatoes... ...	27,486 bushels	United States of America
,, ...	18,135 ,,	Canada
,, ...	877 ,,	British West Indies
Celery	15,818 ,,	Canada
Carrots	24,409 ,,	Canada
Kale	9,402 ,,	United States of America
Onions	18,047 ,,	Canada
,, ...	647 ,,	British West Indies
Tomatoes ...	17,045 ,,	Canada

The total value of the exports of local products was £51,220. This figure includes lily bulbs, of which 1,865 cases were shipped, to the value of £5,588.

Agriculture is almost entirely in the hands of small farmers of European descent. All holdings are of less than 10 acres. The total area cultivated was approximately 1,123 acres.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The most important trade carried on in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the majority of whom come from America.

Whereas formerly the winter season from December to the end of April was the only one of any importance, the present trend is for a year round season, and several of the larger hotels have found it necessary to open during the summer.

There are at least two boats a week from New York in addition to cruise boats.

The management of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. It is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the traffic.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table :—

	Expenditure.	*Tourists.*
	£	
1930	51,676	43,094
1931	58,499	47,376
1932	56,005	44,000
1933	61,270	39,878
1934	63,435	44,310

The 1934 figures do not include 29,509 arrivals in cruise ships. The expenditure on advertising annually is approximately £15,500 in the United States of America, £2,000 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain. Some £4,000 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamer subsidies of £30,100 are included in the expenditure of this Board.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12s. 6d. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the United States or Canada. It has been estimated that 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1930	1,954,568	191,727
1931	2,463,259	119,005
1932	1,891,526	93,461
1933	1,397,066	119,578
1934	1,340,727	294,762

Imports.

From—	*1933.* £	*1934.* £
United Kingdom	506,383	385,796
British Colonies	317,111	295,178
Foreign Countries	573,572	659,753
	£1,397,066	£1,340,727

The chief articles of import with their value were as follows :—

Boots and shoes, £30,386 ; butter, £24,027 ; beef £65,007 ; bran, £8,513 ; clothing, £133,326 ; electrical goods, £39,882 ; fancy goods, £101,713 ; furniture, £28,330 ; oats, £24,488 ; poultry, £20,891 ; fruit (fresh), £32,439 ; malt liquor, £27,224 ; whisky, £16,043.

Exports.

To—	*1933.* £	*1934.* £
United Kingdom	190	318
British Colonies...	43,082	70,043
Foreign Countries	76,306	224,401
	£119,578	£294,762

Chief Articles of Export.

	1933. £	*1934.* £
Lily bulbs	4,910	5,588
Potatoes	24,636	14,739
Other vegetables	27,693	23,083

Competition in practically all branches of trade is keen. Import business is conducted either through local commission agents, or through the placing of orders by buyers who visit centres of production during the summer.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Agricultural labourers ...	6s. to 10s. a day. 54 hours a week.
Masons	16s. to 20s. a day. 53 hours a week.
Painters and carpenters	14s. to 20s. a day. ditto.
Building labourers ...	8s. to 10s. a day. ditto.
Cooks	£4 to £7 a month.
Maids	£2 10s. to £4 10s. a month.
Coachmen	£1 10s. to £2 a week.

Cost of Living.

The standard of living in Bermuda is very high, and is reflected in high prices. Prior to the opening, in November, 1931, of the Bermuda Railway, the only form of land transport other than

bicycle was either by carrier bus or by carriage, with a nominal minimum fare of 3s. for half a mile or less and 8s. for over one mile and under two. Electricity costs 9d. per kilowatt for light and 4d. for power, with certain discounts. Other expenses are proportionately high. The upkeep of a horse and trap costs about £200 a year.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. There are separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races. The total number of children of school age in the Colony was 3,629 in 1934. The average number of pupils registered in the schools was 4,181, and the average attendance 3,567 or 85 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age in 1934 are as follows :—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided Schools	834	2,238	3,072
Unaided	218	216	434
Taught at home	7	6	13
Physically or mentally unfit	41	69	110
	1,100	2,529	3,629

Thirty schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 19 by coloured children.

The total expenditure on education in 1934 was £26,479, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,588
Pensions	722
Scholarships	1,001
Buildings	512
General Grant	20,256
Special Grants	2,400

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December ; and every year candidates from five of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local university, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

(*c*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £300 for one year at a University Training Department in Great Britain.

(*d*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £200 for one year at an approved Training College in Great Britain.

(*e*) Two Scholarships for two years each at a Training College in Jamaica of an annual value of £110 for a man and £90 for a woman.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 7,101,429 tons.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

	British.		
	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	2,689,980	937	2,690,917
Cleared	2,674,569	937	2,675,506
Total British shipping			5,366,423

	Foreign.		
	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Entered	862,328	3,437	865,765
Cleared	865,804	3,437	869,241
Total foreign shipping			1,735,006

In addition to the regular service with New York with from one to four steamers running weekly according to the season, the service with the West Indies and Canada for passengers and freight was maintained at fortnightly intervals throughout the year by the Canadian National Steamships.

Direct passenger service was maintained between England and Bermuda by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company and Messrs. Elders and Fyffes, Limited. The Royal Mail Company and the London Direct Line were mainly responsible for the freight service from the United Kingdom.

Railways.

A light standard gauge railway 22 miles in length connects both ends of the island to Hamilton.

Roads.

No development of any importance took place.

Postal.

Three hundred and forty-four mails were received from overseas and 247 despatched. The volume of business generally is probably greater relatively than that of any other Colony owing to the constant stream of tourists. The number of parcels received was 52,492. The money order business amounted to £57,572. Of this, orders to the value of £53,624 were issued and £3,948 paid. The transit to London for mails is usually eleven days. The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire is 1½*d.* for the first ounce and 1*d.* for each additional ounce.

Cables and Wireless.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company maintain a line to Halifax, and the Direct West Indies Company a line to Jamaica via Turks Islands. The full-rate charges are: New York 1*s.* 6*d.*, and England 2*s.* 4*d.* a word. There is a week-end letter service to Great Britain at a minimum charge of 11*s.* 8*d.* (for twenty words).

In 1925 a licence was granted to the Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company granting them a monopoly of commercial wireless traffic, the right being reserved to the Government to take over the station at the end of ten or fifteen years. The station was completed by the end of 1927 but was not open for traffic. The call sign is G Z H. The system of transmission is Marconi C.W. Valve 25 KW. The wave-length is between 2,750 and 3,000 metres and the range 2,500 miles. There is also a 1.5 KW. quenched gap set, tuned to 600, 650, 750, and 800 metres for working with ship stations. Wireless telephonic communication is now maintained with New York and, by relay, to Canada, Europe, Bahamas, Hawaii, Mexico, and Cuba as well as to ships at sea.

Telephones.

There are about 1,500 miles of telephone line owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £12 (residential) to £20 per annum. There is no limit to

the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges. The system is automatic throughout the Colony. The number of subscribers is 1,650.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are two private banks in the Colony, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £773,539 and £804,890 respectively.

English currency, weights and measures are the legal standards.

Bermuda has issued £1 and 10s. notes to supplement the supply of English notes, which is small.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The heaviest item of expenditure under this head for a number of years has been the cost of widening and deepening the approaches to the Colony by sea. A sum of £508,718 has been spent on this object since 1910. The Narrows Ship Channel has been widened to 450 feet and deepened to 31 feet throughout, and a general plan for the improvement of the Channel is being carried out.

During the year 1934, 32 per cent. of the total expenditure of the Public Works Department was on dredging and 68 per cent. on general works.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND PRISONS.

The Judicial Department consists of the Supreme Court and three Magisterial Courts.

The Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and one or two Assistant Justices.

The Magisterial Courts are presided over by one Police Magistrate each.

During the year, 153 persons were committed to prison as against 301 in 1933. Of these 139 were men; 51 were first offenders, 2 were sentenced to imprisonment for five years or more, and 110 for three months or less.

During the year, 1,685 persons were prosecuted, of whom 104 were discharged, 1,539 punished on summary conviction, and 25 convicted for offences against property and 14 for offences against the person.

There are two prisons in the Colony, the one at Hamilton accommodating 45 prisoners, and the one at St. George's 37 prisoners. There are no associated wards, each prisoner being provided with a cell. The male prisoners break stone for the metalling of the roads, and the female prisoners remake bedding for the Military authorities. Extra-mural labour is carried out by the male prisoners.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

The Acts passed during 1934 included the following:—

No.	*Title.*
1.	The Motor Car Act, 1934.
2.	The Cycle Registration Act, 1921, Amendment Act, 1934.
3.	The Trustee Act. 1876, Amendment Act, 1934.
4.	The Dredger Loan Act, 1934.
5.	The Animals Protection Act, 1923, Amendment Act, 1934.
6.	The Revenue Department Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1934.
7.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1933, Amendment Act, 1934.
8.	The Bills of Exchange Act, 1934.
9.	The Warden of Prisons Act, 1934.
10.	The Ingham and Wilkinson, Limited, Act, 1934.
11.	The Immigration Acts, Amendment Act, 1934.
12.	The Percy Wilfred Graham Shelley Allowance Act, 1934.
13.	The Public Officers Leave Act, 1934.
14.	The Bermuda Volunteer Acts, Amendment Act, 1934.
15.	The New York Communication Act, 1934.
16.	The Liquor License Act, 1921, Amendment Act, 1934.
17.	The School Teachers Superannuation Act, 1934.
18.	The Bermuda Air Base Act, 1934.
19.	The Retired Pilots Allowance Act, 1934.
20.	The Shelly Bay Company Act, 1934.
21.	The Speaker's Pension Act, 1929, Amendment Act, 1934.
22.	The Bulk Sales Act, 1934.
23.	The Dental Registration Act, 1911, Amendment Act, 1934.
24.	The Audit Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1934.
25.	The Appropriation Act, 1933, Amendment Act, 1934.
26.	The Municipalities Act, 1923, Amendment Act, 1934.
27.	The Criminal Code Amendment Act, 1934.
28.	The Escheats Act, 1871, Amendment Act, 1934.
29.	The Appropriation Act, 1933, Amendment Act (No. 2) 1934.
30.	The Importation of Textiles (Quotas) Act, 1934.
31.	The Pembroke Rectory Land Act, 1934.
32.	The Companies Act, 1934.
33.	The Hotel Bermudiana Company Act, 1934.
34.	The Charles Maxwell Allen Relief Act, 1934.
35.	The Interpretation Act, 1907, Amendment Act, 1934.

No.	*Title.*
36.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1933, Amendment Act, 1934.
37.	The Walter Clerk Smith Act, 1934.
38.	The Imperial Defence Contributions Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1934.
39.	The Dogs Act, 1925, Amendment Act, 1934.
40.	The Bermuda Currency Notes Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1934.
41.	The Legitimacy Act, 1933, Amendment Act, 1934.
42.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1934.
43.	The Hamilton Bermuda Hotel Company Act, 1934.
44.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1934.
45.	The Jury Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1934.
46.	The School Teachers' Superannuation Act, 1934, Amendment Act, 1934.
47.	The New York Communication Act (No 2), 1934.
48.	The Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1934.
49.	The Appropriation Act, 1934.
50.	The Police Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1934.
51.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1934.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1930–1934 :—

	Revenue. £	*Recurrent Expenditure.* £	*Expenditure from Reserves.* £
1930	429,190	409,572	—
1931	464,351	458,700	—
1932	462,607	443,501	—
1933	438,226	414,667	—
1934	363,473	372,065	—

Of the total revenue for the year, £228,390 represents Customs receipts.

No changes were made during the year under review in the method of raising revenue apart from certain alterations in the specific Customs duties.

There is a Government Note issue of £1 and 10s. denominations. Notes in circulation at 31st December, 1934 amounted to £156,816.

The value of the investments held as security for this liability was £205,967 on 1st January, 1935. There is no coin reserve, but a liquid reserve of £10,000 is maintained in England in addition to the invested reserve.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December was £86,254, against £90,503 and £98,692 in 1933 and 1932 respectively.

The public debt of the Colony stood at £112,756 at the end of the year. A sum of £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927, and the balance in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December was £42,350.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1934, was £179,293.

The total assets amounted to £422,364 of which £215,967 was held for Government Notes redemption, £98,160 for the Savings Bank, and £56,629 for the Superannuation Fund.

The revenue from specific Customs tariffs was derived as follows:—

	£
From *ad valorem* duties	82,787
,, surtax	27,161
,, duty on spirits	17,464
,, cigars and cigarettes	14,025
,, rum	15,252
,, malt liquor	8,773
,, export tax	8,222

There is a stamp duty of 12s. 6d. on each passenger ticket entitling any person to leave Bermuda. Revenue from this source is about £36,000. A stamp duty of 1d. is payable in respect of all receipts for £1 or more and in respect of all cheques.

(32207—48) Wt. 1989—3528 625 1/36 P. St. G. 377/7

W Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64° 37'

N Lat 32° 23'

N Lat 32° 23'

MURRAY'S ANCHORAGE

ATLANTIC OCEAN

St CATHERINE POINT

THE NARROWS

St GEORGE'S ISLAND

Barracks

St GEORGE

St GEORGE'S HARBOUR

St GEORGE'S HARBOUR

Smith's I

STOCKS HARBOUR

FERRY REACH

LONGBIRD ISLAND

SMITH'S SOUND

St DAVID'S HEAD

St DAVID'S ISLAND

Lighthouse

Cove Point

The Causeway

CASTLE HARBOUR

Cooper's Island

Nonsuch Island

HAMILTON

HARRINGTON SOUND

SHELLY BAY

SMITH'S

Ch

Dockyard

IRELAND ISLAND

GRASSY BAY

DANIEL'S HEAD

MANGROVE BAY

BOAZ ISLAND

Watford Island

Signal Sta SPANISH POINT

Admiralty HO

Government House

Hospital

Ch

DEVONSHIRE

PEMBROKE

Prospect Camp

Ch

Agar's I

HAMILTON

HAMILTON or CROW LANE HARBOUR

SOMERSET ISLAND

Elizabeth I or Hawkins I

Hinson I

PAGET

GREAT SOUND

Ports Island

GRANAWAY DEEP

ELY'S HARBOUR

SANDYS

Tucker's I

Morgan's I

LOBSTER FLAT

Sch

WARWICK

LITTLE SOUND

HOGFISH CUT

SOUTHAMPTON

Lighthouse

Ch

THE ISLANDS OF BERMUDA.

Scale of Miles

9 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0

0 1 2 3 4 Miles

Parish Boundaries .....

N Lat 32° 14'

N Lat 32° 10'

W Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64° 37'

(249,1889A 3528,625,1/36.

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Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BERMUDA, 1935

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the West Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ North latitude and 64° 51′ West longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population in 1931 of 27,789. The estimated density of the population is 1,407 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Caroline, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

Climate.

The range of temperature during 1935 was between 47·5° F. (in March) and 88·8° F. (in July). The mean temperature for the year was 70·5° F. and the mean relative humidity 78·0 per cent. The total rainfall was 64·09 inches, or 5·12 inches above the average for the past 30 years.

History.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island " La Barmuda " in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture*, while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group " The Somers Islands ". The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called " the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Islands ".

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of *Quo Warranto* against the Charter of the Bermuda Company, the government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on 1st August, 1620.

When the government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members, of whom three are official and six nominated unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. There are about 2,456 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards, composed of unofficials nominated by the Governor, with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only. A majority of the members of most Boards are members of the House of Assembly.

There are two municipalities and nine parish vestries exercising the right to impose local taxes.

III.—POPULATION.

	White.			*Coloured.*			*Grand*
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Total.*
1921 Census ...	3,282	3,724	7,006	6,347	6,774	13,121	20,127
1931 „ ...	6,090	5,263	11,353	8,084	8,352	16,436	27,789
1935 estimated ...	6,378	5,557	11,935	8,937	9,232	18,169	30,104

The following are the figures for births and deaths in 1935 :—

	White.			*Coloured.*			*Grand*
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Total.*
Living births ...	124	98	222	260	245	505	727
Deaths	60	34	94	101	83	184	278
Excess of births over deaths	64	64	128	159	162	321	449

The living birth-rate amongst the civilian population was 23·5 per 1,000, being 17·2 amongst the white and 27·7 amongst the coloured population. The illegitimacy rate was 17·1 per cent. (3·05 white and 22·8 coloured).

The death-rate was 9·9 per 1,000 (8·6 white 10·8 coloured).

IV.—HEALTH.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the anopheles has never existed in the islands which have consequently been free from malaria. Epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The numbers of infectious diseases notified from 1931 to 1935, with the principal contributors, were as follows :—

	1931.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
Chicken-pox	17	61	15	60	—
Diphtheria	8	30	23	14	6
Typhoid	4	7	4	5	14
Tuberculosis	17	11	13	14	14
Measles	142	—	8	5	7
German measles ...	—	1	1	1	114
Scarlet fever	33	39	8	7	6
Whooping-cough ...	7	22	199	—	8
Mumps	7	5	3	52	161

The number of cases of diphtheria was the lowest in many years. Scarlet fever was also satisfactorily low. Mumps were a legacy from 1934. German measles were introduced wholesale by college teams at Easter. The one serious outbreak of the year was typhoid in a school for coloured children ; 11 of the pupils contracted it and one died.

Free clinics are held by the District Health Officers in the Western and Eastern districts, whilst the District Nurses provided by the Welfare Society continue to do good work.

V.—HOUSING.

There was considerable building activity during the year under review, principally of residential houses, the demand for which by American visitors is increasing. An unfortunate result of this demand is that rents have risen steeply, even for working men's houses. It is hoped that the supply will soon catch up with the demand, and so bring back rents to a more normal level. Meanwhile Government is watching the position.

The majority of the wage-earning population own or rent well-constructed stone houses.

Little progress was made by the Legislature with the Amenities Bill, the object of which is to control building and the sub-division of land.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The principal industry of the Colony is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs.

The Government continued to maintain packing-houses at which farm-produce was graded and packed for export, a fixed charge per crate being made. Growers were free to use these facilities or to

pack their own produce on the farm, in which case it was subjected to Government inspection on the dock. The number of crates packed in the Government packing-houses, amounting to 108,938, was greater than in any previous year, and included 98·5 per cent. of the tomatoes exported.

The volume of vegetables exported, 138,476 bushels, was the second lowest quantity in 20 years but, thanks to improved prices in the Canadian market, the returns to the grower were better than in the two previous years. The exports of chief value were tomatoes, carrots, celery and potatoes to Canada, potatoes and Easter lily bulbs to the United States of America, and lily bulbs to the United Kingdom. The estimated net value of agricultural produce sold in various countries during the years 1931 to 1935 is as follows :—

Country.	*Net value of Produce sold.*				
	1931.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Canada	9,900	37,200	24,800	22,600	35,200
United States of America...	25,000	11,300	10,400	9,000	8,900
United Kingdom	600	900	1,000	800	900
Other countries	100	100	300	600	700
Total	£35,600	£49,500	£36,500	£33,000	£45,700

The value of agricultural produce sold locally cannot be computed with any degree of accuracy, but is probably in the neighbourhood of £152,000, giving a total net value for agricultural produce of approximately £198,000.

The arable land under cultivation is estimated at 1,000 acres, most of which bears two or three crops each year. Farm-holdings are small, few with more than 10 acres of arable land, and most are in the hands of farmers of Portuguese descent.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The most important trade carried on in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the majority of whom come from America.

Whereas formerly the winter season from December to the end of April was the only one of any importance, the present trend is for a year round season, and several of the larger hotels have found it necessary to open during the summer.

There are at least two boats a week from New York in addition to cruise ships.

The promotion of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. The Board is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the trade.

An executive department with a staff of eight is regularly employed in carrying on the work of the Board in Bermuda, and information offices are maintained in London, Montreal and New York.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Expenditure.* £	*Tourists.* *By Regular ships.*	*By Cruise ships.*	*Total Tourists.*
1931	55,959	47,376	25,962	73,338
1932	57,621	45,190	29,324	74,514
1933	61,366	39,878	22,096	61,974
1934	64,144	45,647	29,509	75,156
1935	70,380	50,198	25,826	76,024

The average annual expenditure on advertising is approximately £16,000 in the United States of America, £2,400 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain, in addition to which about £4,000 is expended for general publicity and £2,000 for promotional literature. Some £4,000 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamship subsidies of about £31,000 annually are included in the expenditures of this Board.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12s. 6d. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the United States or Canada. It has been estimated that at the least 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows :—

	Imports. £	*Exports.* £
1931	2,463,259	119,005
1932	1,891,526	93,461
1933	1,397,066	119,578
1934	1,340,727	294,762
1935	1,420,198	121,538

Imports.

From—	*1934.* £	*1935.* £
United Kingdom	385,796	438,193
Rest of British Empire	295,178	300,038
Foreign Countries	659,753	681,967
	£1,340,727	£1,420,198

The chief articles of import were foodstuffs (£297,317), woollen goods (£123,187), beer, wines and spirits (£114,165), cotton goods (£64,066), hardware (£49,671), electrical goods (£45,993), perfumery (£38,056), boots and shoes (£31,092), furniture (£26,698).

Exports.

To—	*1934.*	*1935.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	318	5,967
Rest of British Empire	70,043	41,545
Foreign Countries	224,401	74,026
	£294,762	£121,538

Of the total exports of £121,538 only £55,280 represents goods or produce of local manufacture. The balance is made up of goods of British or foreign make which are purchased locally and re-exported, largely by American visitors, who buy considerable quantities of woollens, liquor and perfumery which they take back to their own country. Vegetables and lily bulbs and flowers account for practically all of the exports of local produce and manufactures.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Agricultural labourers	6s. to 10s. a day.	54 hours a week
Masons	16s. to 20s. a day.	53 hours a week.
Painters and carpenters...	14s. to 20s. a day.	,, ,,
Building labourers	8s. to 10s. a day.	,, ,,
Cooks and maids...	£5 to £10 a month.	,, ,,
Coachmen	£1 10s. to £2 a week.	

Cost of Living.

The cost of living expressed in terms of cash is high in Bermuda as compared with the United Kingdom; rents, foodstuffs, clothes, fuel and light, and transportation are all dearer. But as wages are correspondingly high the working man is not adversely affected, and his standard of living is a good one.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. The fees are, however, very low. There are separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races. The average number of pupils registered in the schools in 1935 was 4,337, and the average attendance 3,653 or 84 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age in 1935 are as follows :—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided schools	839	2,295	3,134
Unaided	217	250	467
Taught at home	9	5	14
Physically or mentally unfit	24	81	105
	1,089	2,631	3,720

Thirty schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 19 by coloured children.

The total expenditure from public funds on education in 1935 was £31,389, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,637
Pensions	1,161
Scholarships	832
Buildings, upkeep	542
Grants to schools	21,397
Building grants	5,821

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held annually in December; and every year candidates from five of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local university, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes' Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes' Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

(*c*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £300 for one year at a University Training Department in Great Britain.

(*d*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £200 for one year at an approved Training College in Great Britain.

(*e*) Two scholarships for two years each at a training college in Jamaica of an annual value of £110 for a man and £90 for a woman.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 6,707,246 tons.

The following table shows the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

British.

	Steam. Tons.	*Sail. Tons.*	*Total. Tons.*
Entered	2,445,091	580	2,445,671
Cleared	2,441,228	280	2,441,508
Total British shipping			4,887,179

Foreign.

	Steam. Tons.	*Sail. Tons.*	*Total. Tons.*
Entered	904,182	687	904,869
Cleared	914,511	687	915,198
Total foreign shipping			1,820,067

The Furness-Bermuda line operates a service of one to three sailings per week, according to the season, in each direction between Bermuda and New York. The Canadian National Steamships line operates a fortnightly service between Canada, Bermuda and the West Indies. Both these lines are subsidized by the Bermuda Government.

In addition there are direct passenger and freight services between Bermuda and England by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company (monthly) and Elders and Fyffes (every six weeks).

Railways.

A light standard gauge railway 22 miles in length connects both ends of the island to Hamilton.

Roads.

No development of any importance took place. The roads are not constructed for motor traffic, since, apart from Public Works Department lorries, ambulances, etc., motor vehicles are prohibited. The roads are for horse-drawn vehicles and bicycles. For these they are good.

Postal.

The number of parcels received was 52,665. The money-order business amounted to £54,416. Of this, orders to the value of £49,971 were issued and £4,435 paid. The transit to London for

mails is 10-14 days. The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire is 1½d. for the first ounce and 1d. for each additional ounce.

Cables and Wireless.

The Halifax & Bermudas Cable Company, a subsidiary of Cable and Wireless Limited, operates cable, wireless and wireless telephone services between Bermuda and all parts of the world.

For cables and wireless messages the full rate to England is 2s. 4d. a word, to New York 1s. 6d. a word. The wireless telephone charges are $36 and $15 respectively for three minutes.

Telephones.

There are about 1,500 miles of telephone line owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £12 (residential) to £20 per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges. The system is automatic throughout the Colony. The number of subscribers is 1,650.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are two private banks in the Colony, the Bank of Bermuda Limited and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £908,671 and £921,262, respectively.

English currency, weights and measures are the legal standards.

Bermuda has issued £1, 10s. and 5s. notes to supplement the supply of English notes, which is small.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure on Public Works, annually recurrent and extraordinary, and on channel works was £53,397, as compared with £71,876 in 1934 and £103,785 in 1933.

Of the total expended, £10,115 was on dredging, mainly the Town Cut Channel which was completed to a width of 250 feet and a depth of 26 feet m.l.w. Dredging operations ceased on 31st May.

No major works were carried out during the year under review.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND PRISONS.

The Judicial Department consists of the Supreme Court and three Magisterial Courts.

The Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and one or two Assistant Justices.

The Magisterial Courts are presided over by one Police Magistrate each.

During the year 1,766 persons were prosecuted, of whom 79 were discharged, 1,645 punished on summary conviction, and 26 convicted for offences against property and 14 for offences against the person. One hundred and seventy-seven persons were committed to prison, as against 153 in 1934.

There are two prisons in the Colony, the one at Hamilton accommodating 45 prisoners, and the one at St. George's 37 prisoners. There are no associated wards, each prisoner being provided with a cell. The male prisoners break stone for the metalling of the roads, and the female prisoners remake bedding for the Military Authorities. Extra-mural government work is carried out by the male prisoners.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts passed during 1935.

No.	*Title.*
1.	The Companies Act, 1934, Amendment Act, 1935.
2.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1935.
3.	The Police Magistracy Act, 1935.
4.	The Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes Act, 1935.
5.	The Canadian National (West Indies) Steamships, Limited Act, 1935.
6.	The Colonial Government Land Sales Act, 1935.
7.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1935.
8.	The Drawback of Duties Act, 1935.
9.	The Escheats Act, 1871, Amendment Act, 1935.
10.	The Imperial Preference Act, 1925, Amendment Act, 1935.
11.	The Imperial Mycological Institute Act, 1935.
12.	The Stanley Martin Pension Act, 1935.
13.	The West India Oil Company, S.A. Act, 1935.
14.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1935, Amendment Act, 1935.
15.	The Deputy Mayor Act, 1935.
16.	The Municipalities Act, 1923, Amendment Act, 1935.
17.	The St. George's Ordinance Confirmation Act, 1935.
18.	The Dudley-Cavendish Act, 1935.
19.	The C.B. Tucker Trust Act, 1935.
20.	The Public Works Department Act, 1930 (No. 3 Tribe Road, Devonshire) Amendment Act, 1935.
21.	The Bermuda General Theatres Act, 1935.
22.	The Criminal Code Amendment Act, 1935.
23.	The Patents Designs and Trade Marks Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1935.
24.	The Gaols Act, 1935.
25.	The Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1935.

No.	*Title.*
26.	The Police Establishment Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1935.
27.	The Bermuda Engineering Company Act, 1935.
28.	The Liquor License Act, 1921, Amendment Act, 1935.
29.	The Elbon Limited Act, 1935.
30.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1935, Amendment Act (No. 2), 1935.
31.	The Bermuda Air Base Act, 1934, Amendment Act, 1935.
32.	The Airport Construction Committee Act, 1935.
33.	The Probates (Re-Sealing) Act, 1935.
34.	The Public Works Department Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1935.
35.	The Imperial Defence Contributions Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1935.
36.	The Revenue Act, 1898, Amendment Act, 1935.
37.	The Horizons Act, 1935.
38.	The Alfred Blackburn Smith Act, 1935.
39.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1935, Amendment Act (No. 2), 1935.
40.	The Bermuda Currency Notes Act, 1935.
41.	The Exemption from Duty Act, 1935.
42.	The Public Carriage Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1935.
43.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1935.
44.	The Bermuda Nursing Home Act, 1935.
45.	The Wreck Removal Act, 1935.
46.	The Bermuda Railway Company Act, 1935.
47.	The Customs Tariff Act (No. 2), 1935.
48.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1935, Amendment Act, 1935.
49.	The Revenue Act, 1898, Amendment Act (No. 2), 1935.
50.	The Appropriation Act, 1935.
51.	The Colonial Government Land Sales Act (No. 2), 1935.
52.	The Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1935.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1931-5 :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1931	464,351	458,700
1932	462,607	443,501
1933	438,226	414,667
1934	363,473	372,065
1935	391,895	371,440

Of the total revenue for the year, £249,004 represents Customs receipts.

No changes were made during the year under review in the method of raising revenue apart from certain alterations in the specific Customs duties.

There is a Government note issue of £1, 10s. and 5s. denominations. Notes in circulation at 31st December, 1935, amounted to £166,943.

The market value of the investments held as security for this liability was £211,336 on 1st January, 1936. There is no coin reserve, but a liquid reserve of £10,000 is maintained in England in addition to the invested reserve.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December was £82,579, against £86,254 in 1934, and £90,503 in 1933.

The public debt of the Colony stood at £108,036 at the end of the year. A sum of £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927, and the balance in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December was £44,722 (market value).

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1935, was £221,938.

The total assets amounted to £471,522 of which £211,336 was held for Government Notes redemption, £93,691 for the Savings Bank, and £59,998 for the Superannuation Fund.

The revenue from specific Customs tariffs was derived as follows :—

	£
From *ad valorem* duties	93,655
,, surtax	30,974
,, duty on spirits (including alcohol)	38,016
,, cigars and cigarettes	15,259
,, malt liquor	8,691
,, export tax	4,924

There is a stamp duty of 12s. 6d. on passenger tickets in respect of every person leaving Bermuda. Revenue from this source is about £36,000. A stamp duty of 1d. is payable in respect of all receipts for £1 or more and in respect of all cheques.

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the West Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ North latitude and 64° 51′ West longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population in 1931 of 27,789. The estimated density of the population is 1,407 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

Climate.

The range of temperature during 1936 was between 46·5° F. (in February) and 91·6° F. (in August). The mean temperature for the year was 71·3° F. and the mean relative humidity 79 per cent. The total rainfall was 53·49 inches, 5·48 inches below the average for the 40 years 1891-1930.

History.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island " La Barmuda " in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture,* while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group " The Somers Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension of their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for the sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called " the Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Island."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of *Quo Warranto* against the Charter of the Bermuda Company the Government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on 1st August, 1620.

When the Government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature, consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members of whom three are official and six nominated unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of thirty-six members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. There are about 2,353 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards, composed of unofficials nominated by the Governor, with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only. A majority of the members of most Boards are members of the House of Assembly.

There are two municipalities and nine parish vestries exercising the right to impose local taxes.

III.—CIVIL POPULATION.

	White.			*Coloured.*			*Grand*
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total*	*Total.*
1921 Census	3,282	3,724	7,006	6,347	6,774	13,121	20,127
1931 „	6,090	5,263	11,353	8,084	8,352	16,436	27,789
1936 estimated	6,435	5,602	12,037	9,124	9,391	18,515	30,552

The following are the figures for births and deaths in 1936:—

	White.			*Coloured.*			*Grand*
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Total.*
Living births	121	95	216	283	249	532	748
Deaths ...	64	50	114	96	90	186	300
Excess births over deaths.	57	45	102	187	159	346	448

The living birth-rate amongst the civilian population was 24·2 per 1,000, being 17·2 amongst the white and 28·7 amongst the coloured population. The illegitimacy rate was 20 per cent. (4·8 white and 25·9 coloured). The death-rate was 10·8 per 1,000 (10·4 white, 11·01 coloured).

IV.—HEALTH.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the anopheles has never existed in the islands which have consequently been free from malaria. Severe epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The numbers of infectious diseases notified from 1931 to 1936, with the principal contributors, were as follows:—

	1931.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Chicken-pox	17	61	15	60	130	73
Diphtheria	8	30	23	14	6	5
Typhoid	4	7	4	5	14	7
Tuberculosis	17	11	13	14	14	16
Measles	142	—	8	5	7	7
German measles ...	—	1	1	1	114	200
Scarlet fever	33	39	8	7	6	44
Whooping cough ...	7	22	199	—	8	6
Mumps	7	5	3	52	161	148

The number of cases of diphtheria was the lowest in many years. German measles and scarlet fever were brought to us from New York in 1935. The majority of cases of the former occurred early in the year, while most of the latter were after midsummer. The scarlet fever in general was mild, there was no death, no serious ear infection, and but one case of severe nephritis. An obstetrical case had scarlet fever concurrently, and developed septicaemia, but recovered. In regard to the scarlet fever it might be noted that three cases occurred in one household, while in three other families there were two cases. One of the sharpest attacks of this year had an almost equally severe case in 1935.

Free clinics are held by the District Health Officers in the Western and Eastern districts, whilst the District Nurses provided by the Welfare Society continue to do good work.

V.—HOUSING.

There was considerable building activity during the year under review, principally of residential houses, the demand for which by American visitors is increasing. An unfortunate result of this demand is that rents have risen steeply, even for working men's houses. It is hoped that the supply will soon catch up with the demand, and so bring back rents to a more normal level. Meanwhile Government is watching the position.

Little progress was made by the Legislature with the Amenities Bill, the object of which is to control building and the sub-division of land.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The principal industry of the Colony is agriculture. The products are vegetables for the North American market and home consumption, and lily bulbs.

The Government maintains packing-houses at Paget and Southampton Parishes at which vegetables are graded and packed for export; a fixed charge per crate is made for this service, and vegetables are shipped under the Government Registered Trade Mark. The growers are free to use these facilities, or pack their own produce on the farm, which is subject to Government inspection on the dock.

The number of crates packed at the Government packing-houses was 72,860 a decrease of 36,078 compared with the previous year.

The volume of vegetables exported was 126,175 bushels, a decrease of 12,301 bushels compared with the previous year. The exports of chief value were tomatoes, carrots and celery to Canada, potatoes and Easter lily bulbs to the United States of America, and lily bulbs to the United Kingdom. The estimated net value of agricultural produce sold in various countries during the years 1932 to 1936 is as follows:—

	Net value of Produce sold.				
Country.	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
	£	£	£	£	£
Canada	37,200	24,800	22,600	35,200	17,100
United States of America	11,300	10,400	9,000	8,900	11,400
United Kingdom ...	900	1,000	800	900	1,000
Other countries ...	100	300	600	700	300
Total	49,500	36,500	33,000	45,700	29,800

The value of agricultural produce sold locally cannot be computed with any degree of accuracy, but is probably in the neighbourhood of £168,000, giving a total net value for agricultural produce in 1936 of approximately £197,800.

The arable land under cultivation is estimated at 1,000 acres, most of which bears two or three crops each year. Farm-holdings are small, few with more than 10 acres of arable land, and most are in the hands of farmers of Portuguese descent.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The most important trade carried on in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the majority of whom come from America.

There are at least two boats a week from New York, and on an average one a week from Canada, in addition to cruise ships from both these countries and occasionally from England.

The promotion of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. The Board is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the trade.

An executive department with a staff of eight is regularly employed in carrying on the work of the Board in Bermuda, and information offices are maintained in London, Montreal and New York.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table:—

Year.	*Expenditure*	*Tourists by Regular Ships*	*By Cruise Ships.*	*Total Tourists.*
	£			
1931	55,959	47,376	25,962	73,338
1932	57,621	45,190	29,324	74,514
1933	61,366	39,878	22,096	61,974
1934	64,144	45,647	29,509	75,156
1935	70,380	50,198	25,826	76,024
1936	73,500	57,270	23,316	80,586

The average annual expenditure on advertising is approximately £17,000 in the United States of America, £2,400 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain, in addition to which about £5,000 is expended for general publicity and £2,000 for promotional literature. Some £4,000 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamship subsidies of about £31,000 annually are included in the expenditures of this Board.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12s. 6d. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. The comparatively low tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. ad valorem enables articles to be sold at lower prices than in the United States or Canada. It has been estimated that at the least 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

The estimated value at the port of shipment of the imports and exports for the past five years has been as follows:—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1932	1,891,526	93,461
1933	1,397,066	119,578
1934	1,340,727	294,762
1935	1,420,198	121,538
1936	1,891,676	135,812

Imports.

	1935. £	1936. £
United Kingdom	438,193	619,912
Rest of British Empire	300,038	354,992
Foreign Countries	681,967	916,772
	1,420,198	1,891,676

The chief articles of import were foodstuffs (£504,098), woollen goods (£123,271), beer, wines and spirits (£132,237), cotton goods (£66,994), hardware (£47,190), electrical goods (£74,694), perfumery (£44,671), boots and shoes (£34,448), furniture (£37,193).

Exports.

	1935. £	1936. £
United Kingdom	5,967	2,438
Rest of British Empire	41,545	46,451
Foreign Countries	74,026	86,923
	121,538	135,812

Of the total exports of £135,812 only £48,415 represents goods or produce of local manufacture. The balance is made up of goods of British or foreign make which are purchased locally and re-exported, largely by American visitors, who buy considerable quantities of woollens, liquor and perfumery which they take back to their own country. Vegetables and lily bulbs and flowers account for practically all of the exports of local produce and manufactures.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Agricultural labourers	6s. to 10s. a day 54 hours a week
Masons	16s. to 20s. a day 53 hours a week
Painters and carpenters ...	14s. to 20s. a day 53 hours a week
Building labourers	8s. to 10s. a day 53 hours a week
Cooks and maids	£5 to £10 a month 53 hours a week
Coachmen	£1 10s. to £2 a week.

Cost of Living.

The cost of living expressed in terms of cash is high in Bermuda as compared with the United Kingdom; rents, foodstuffs, clothes, fuel and light, and transportation are all dearer.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. The fees are, however, very low. There are separate schools for white and coloured

children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races. The average number of pupils registered in the schools in 1936 was 4,471, and the average attendance 3,736 or 84 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age at the 31st December, 1936, are as follows:—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided Schools	836	2,359	3,195
Unaided	239	271	510
Taught at home	11	9	20
Receiving no instruction (including those mentally unfit). ...	34	47	81
	1,120	2,686	3,806

Thirty schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, 11 are attended by white and 19 by coloured children.

The total expenditure from public funds on education in 1936 was £29,311 of which the principal items were:—

	£
Administration	1,642
Pensions	1,107
Scholarships	893
Buildings, upkeep	846
Grants to schools	21,823
Grants for playgrounds	3,000

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held in July and December; and every year candidates from a number of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local university, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are:—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

(*c*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £300 for one year at a University Training Department in Great Britain.

(*d*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £200 for two years at an approved Training College in Great Britain.

(*e*) Two Scholarships for two years each at a training college in Jamaica of an annual value of £110 for a man and £90 for a woman.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 5,956,410 tons.

The following tables show the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships:—

British.

	Steam Tons.	*Sail Tons.*	*Total Tons.*
Entered	2,398,008	811	2,398,819
Cleared	2,413,172	1,106	2,414,278
Total British shipping			4,813,097

Foreign.

	Steam Tons.	*Sail Tons.*	*Total Tons.*
Entered	582,270	1,675	583,945
Cleared	557,693	1,675	559,368
Total foreign shipping			1,143,313

The Furness-Bermuda Line operates a service of one to three sailings a week, according to the season, in each direction between Bermuda and New York. The Canadian National Steamships Line operates a weekly service between Canada, Bermuda and the West Indies. Both these Lines are subsidized by the Bermuda Government.

In addition there are direct passenger and freight services between Bermuda and England by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company (monthly) and Elders and Fyffes (every six weeks).

Railways.

A light standard gauge railway 22 miles in length connects both ends of the island to Hamilton.

Roads.

No development of any importance took place. The roads are not constructed for motor traffic, since, apart from the Public Works Department lorries, ambulances, and fire-engines, motor vehicles are prohibited. The roads are for horse-drawn vehicles and bicycles. For these they are good.

Postal.

The number of parcels received was 57,318. The money-order business amounted to £60,003. Of this, orders to the value of £53,018 were issued and £6,985 paid. The transit to London for mails is 10-14 days. The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire is 1½d. for the first ounce and 1d. for each additional ounce.

Cables and Wireless.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company, a subsidiary of Cable and Wireless, Limited, operates cable, wireless and wireless telephone services between Bermuda and all parts of the world.

For cables and wireless messages the full rate to England is 2s. 4d. a word, to New York 1s. 6d. a word. The wireless telephone charges are $36 and $15 respectively for three minutes.

Telephones.

There are about 11,500 miles of telephone line, including underground cables, owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £12 (residential) to £20 per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges. The system is automatic throughout the Colony. The number of subscribers is 2,134.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are two private banks in the Colony, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statments amounted to £1,061,156 and £1,077,342 respectively.

English currency, weights and measures are the legal standards. There is, however, a Bermuda Government note issue of £1, 10s. and 5s. denominations to supplement the supply of English notes, which is small. Notes in circulation at 31st December, 1936, amounted to £203,943.

The market value of the investments held as security for this liability was £268,528 on 1st January, 1937. Included in this sum is an amount of £30,000 held in cash awaiting investment. There is no coin in reserve, but a liquid reserve of £10,000 is maintained in England in addition to the invested reserve.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure on Public Works, annually, recurrent and extraordinary, and on channel works was £63,436, as compared with £53,397 in 1935 and £71,876 in 1934.

Of the total expended, £13,662 was on dredging, mainly the Narrows and Town Cut Channels, which were improved. Dredging operations commenced on 1st May, 1936.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND PRISONS.

The Judicial Department consists of the Supreme Court and three Magisterial Courts.

The Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and one or two Assistant Justices.

The Magisterial Courts are presided over by one Police Magistrate each.

During the year 1,678 persons were prosecuted of whom 84 persons were discharged, and 1,520 punished on summary conviction. 163 persons were convicted for offences against property, and 102 for offences against the person. 229 persons were committed to prison in 1936 as against 197 in 1935.

There are two prisons in the Colony, the one at Hamilton accommodating 45 prisoners, and the one at St. George's 37 prisoners. There are no associated wards, each prisoner being provided with a separate cell. The male prisoners are all employed, as far as practicable, on Government works outside the prisons, and the female prisoners in sewing mail bags and mending prison clothing.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts passed during 1936.

No.	*Title.*
1.	The King's Warehouse Regulations Act, 1936.
2.	The Sunshine League Act, 1936.
3.	The Bermuda Air Port Act, 1936.
4.	The Superannuation Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1936.
5.	The Dredger Loan Payment Act, 1936.
6.	The Public Carriage Act, 1936.
7.	The Wireless Telegraphy and Signalling Act, 1936.
8.	The Bermuda Domestic Science School Act, 1936.
9.	The E. A. and E. E. Trimingham Trusts Act, 1936.
10.	The Head of the Lane Act, 1936.
11.	The Philip Francis Heyl Estate Relief Act, 1936.
12.	The West India Oil Company, S. A. Act, 1936.
13.	The Trustee Act, 1936.
14.	The Summary Offences Act, 1926, Amendment Act, 1936.
15.	The Corporate Bodies Lands Act, 1936.
16.	The Dogs Act, 1925, Amendment Act, 1936.
17.	The Evean Act, 1936.
18.	The Henry James Agnew Williams Act, 1936.
19.	The Recording and Registration Act, 1922, Amendment Act, 1936.
20.	The Biological Station Act, 1936.
21.	The Devisees of Marion H. Payn Relief Act, 1936.

No.	Title.
22.	The Johnson and Cooper Act, 1936.
23.	The King Edward VII Memorial Hospital Act, 1936.
24.	The Real Property Limitation of Actions Act, 1936.
25.	The Audit Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1936.
26.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1935, Amendment Act, 1936.
27.	The Customs Tariff Act, (No. 2), 1935, Amendment Act, 1936.
28.	The Criminal Code Amendment Act, 1936.
29.	The Board of Trade Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1936.
30.	The Interpretation Act, 1907, Amendment Act, 1936.
31.	The Summary Offences Act, 1928, Amendment Act, 1936.
32.	The Stamp Duties Act, 1919, Amendment Act, 1936.
33.	The N. B. Taylor Employment Act, 1936.
34.	The Revenue Department Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1936.
35.	The Revenue Act, 1898, Amendment Act, 1936.
36.	The Dangerous Drugs Act, 1936.
37.	The Bellevue Limited Act, 1936.
38.	The United Securities Limited Act, 1936.
39.	The Bank of Bermuda Act, 1936.
40.	The N. T. Butterfield and Son Bank Act, 1936.
41.	The Liquor Licence Act, 1936.
42.	The International Match Realization Company Limited Act, 1936.
43.	The Note Security Fund Act, 1936.
44.	The Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1936.
45.	The Alien Act, 1926, Amendment Act, 1936.
46.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1936.
47.	The Customs Tariff (No. 2), 1936.
48.	The Corporate Bodies Lands Act (2) 1936.
49.	The Appropriation Act, 1936.
50.	The Revenue Act, 1898, Amendment Act, (No. 2), 1936.
51.	The Bermuda Railway Company Act, 1936.
52.	The Municipalities Act, 1923, Amendment Act, 1936.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1932-6:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1932	462,607	443,501
1933	438,226	414,667
1934	363,473	372,065
1935	391,895	371,440
1936	431,399	412,414

Of the total revenue for the year, £299,025 represents Customs receipts.

No changes were made during the year under review in the method of raising revenue apart from certain alterations in the specific Customs duties.

There is a general Reserve Fund, created in 1921, the market value of the invested funds on the 31st December, 1936, amounting to £6,858, to which an amount of £20,000 has since been added.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December was £89,108 against £82,579 in 1935 and £86,254 in 1934.

The public debt of the Colony stood at £75,000 at the end of the year. A sum of £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927, and the balance in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December was £47,083 (market value).

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1936, was £244,574.

The total assets amounted to £537,829 of which £268,588 was held for Government Notes redemption, £99,063 for the Savings Bank, and £73,608 for the Superannuation Fund.

The revenue from specific Customs tariffs was derived as follows:—

	£
From *ad valorem* duties	98,119
From surtax	39,557
From duty on spirits (including alcohol)	43,644
From Cigars and cigarettes	17,280
From malt liquor	10,218
From export tax	9,660

There is a stamp duty of 12s. 6d. on passenger tickets in respect of every person leaving Bermuda. Revenue from this source is about £42,000. A stamp duty of 1d. is payable in respect of all receipts for £1 or more and in respect of all cheques.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency, General Sir Thomas Astley Cubitt, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Governor and Commander-in-Chief, departed from Bermuda on the 1st April, 1936, and his appointment expired on the 19th April, 1936.

His Excellency, Lieut.-General Sir Reginald John Thoroton Hildyard, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who was appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief with effect from the 20th April, 1936, landed in the Colony and assumed his office on the 21st May, 1936.

The Honourable Alexander William George Herder Grantham, Colonial Secretary, acted as Governor from the 1st April, 1936, to the 20th May, 1936, and during His Excellency the Governor's absence on leave from the 24th October, 1936, to the 6th November, 1936.

The New Year Honours List contained the following award:—

C.B.E. (Civil Division).—Mr. James Reginald Conyers, M.C.P.

The Birthday Honours List contained the following award:—

M.B.E. (Civil Division).—Miss Jane Ingham Frith.

(45286—48) Wt. 2462—3902 625 11/37 P. St. G. 377/7

W Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64° 37'

N Lat 32° 23'

N Lat 32° 23'

A T L A N T I C O C E A N

MURRAY'S ANCHORAGE

ST GEORGE'S ISLAND

ST CATHERINE POINT

THE NARROWS

Barracks

ST GEORGE

ST GEORGE'S HARBOUR

Somers Garden

Smith's

FERRY REACH

St Catherine

ST DAVID'S HEAD

ST DAVID'S ISLAND

Lighthouse

Cove Point

Long Bird Island

CASTLE HARBOUR

Cooper's Island

Nonsuch Island

HAMILTON

HARRINGTON SOUND

SMITH'S

DANIEL'S HEAD

MANGROVE BAY

BOAZ ISLAND

Walford Island

IRELAND ISLAND

Dockyard

GRASSY BAY

Naval Base

SPANISH POINT

Admiralty House

Government House

Hospital

DEVONSHIRE

PEMBROKE

Prospect Camp

HAMILTON

HAMILTON or CROW LANE HARBOUR

Agar's I.

SOMERSET ISLAND

Elizabeth I.

Hawkins I.

Hinson I.

PAGET

GREAT SOUND

Ports Island

GRANAWAY DEEP

Tucker's I.

Morgan's I.

SANDYS

LOBSTER FLAT

WARWICK

LITTLE SOUND

HOGFISH CUT

SOUTHAMPTON

Lighthouse

THE ISLANDS OF BERMUDA.

Scale of Miles

0 1 2 3 4 MILES

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N Lat. 32° 14'

W. Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64° 37'

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BERMUDA, 1937

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the West Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ North latitude and 64° 51′ West longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population in 1931 of 27,789. The estimated density of the population is 1,407 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for seagoing ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

Climate.

The range of temperature during 1937 was between 46·4° F. (in February) and 94·1° F. (in August). The mean temperature for the year was 71·8° F. and the mean relative humidity 77 per cent. The total rainfall was 56·73 inches, 2·24 inches below the average for the 40 years 1891-1930.

History.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island " La Bermuda " in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture,* while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat.

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group " The Somers Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension for their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for a sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called " The Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Island."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of *Quo Warranto* against the Charter of the Bermuda Company the Government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island, was dissolved.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on 1st August, 1620.

When the Government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members of whom three are official and six nominated unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. There are about 2,411 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards, composed of unofficials nominated by the Governor, with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only. A majority of the members of most Boards are members of the House of Assembly.

There are two municipalities and nine parish vestries exercising the right to impose local taxes.

III.—CIVIL POPULATION.

	White.			*Coloured.*			
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Grand Total.*
1921 Census ...	3,282	3,724	7,006	6,347	6,774	13,121	20,127
1931 ,, ...	6,090	5,263	11,353	8,084	8,352	16,436	27,789
1937 estimated ...	6,491	5,652	12,143	9,252	9,556	18,808	30,951

The following are the figures for births and deaths in 1937:—

	White.			*Coloured.*			
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Grand Total.*
Living births ...	125	98	223	235	270	505	728
Deaths ...	69	48	117	107	105	212	329
Excess births over deaths.	56	50	106	128	165	293	399

The living birth-rate amongst the civilian population was 23·1 per 1,000 being 17·3 amongst the white and 26·8 amongst the coloured population. The illegitimacy rate was 20·5 per cent. (6·1 white and 26·5 coloured). The death-rate was 11·8 per 1,000 (10·4 white, 12·5 coloured).

IV.—HEALTH.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the anopheles has never existed in the islands, which have consequently been free from malaria. Severe epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The numbers of infectious diseases notified from 1932 to 1937, with the principal contributors, were as follows:—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*
Anterior-poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	7
Chickenpox	61	15	60	130	73	35
Diphtheria	30	23	14	6	5	1
Typhoid	7	4	5	14	7	2
Tuberculosis	11	13	14	14	16	11
Measles	—	8	5	7	7	24
German Measles	1	1	1	114	200	24
Scarlet Fever	39	8	7	6	44	39
Whooping-cough	22	199	—	8	6	4
Mumps	5	3	52	161	148	4

Anterior poliomyelitis was due to come among us, for it has been in all the major ports with which we trade. In March H.M.S. *Frobisher* arrived from the West Indies with it, but there was no spread ashore. In September, however, a case appeared and thereafter, until the end of the year, sporadic cases occurred without a visible source and ostensibly unrelated to each other. Dr. W. Lloyd Aycock, Chief of the Commission on poliomyelitis in Massachusetts, investigated the situation and predicted that in all probability the disease would soon disappear from our midst. Fortunately his forecast was correct.

Tuberculosis and typhoid had a lower incidence than in previous years. On the other hand a case of bacillus abortus infection was proved, to make the only example in a considerable time and the fourth of which we have a clear record.

Antisyphilitic treatment is administered free by the medical officers at the hospital and at each end of the island.

V.—HOUSING.

There was considerable building activity during the year under review, slightly less than the preceding year, principally of residential houses, the demand for which by American visitors is increasing. An unfortunate result of this demand is that rents have risen steeply, even for working men's houses. It is hoped that the supply will soon catch up with the demand, and so bring back rents to a more normal level. Meanwhile Government is watching the position.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

With the exception of the tourist trade, the principal industry of the Colony is agriculture. The arable land under cultivation is estimated at 1,000 acres, most of which bears two or three crops each year. The products are vegetables for the North American market and for home consumption, and lily bulbs. Farm-holdings are small, few having more than 10 acres of arable land, and most are in the hands of farmers of Portuguese descent.

The Government maintains packing-houses at Paget and Southampton Parishes at which vegetables are graded and packed for export; a fixed charge per crate is made for this service, and vegetables are shipped under the Government Registered Trade Mark. The growers are free to use these facilities, or to pack their own produce on the farm, the produce in the latter case being subject to Government inspection on the dock.

The number of crates packed at the Government packing-houses was 38,695 a decrease of 34,165 compared with the previous year.

The volume of vegetables exported was 71,959 bushels, a decrease of 54,116 bushels compared with the previous year. The exports of chief value were tomatoes, carrots and celery to Canada, potatoes and Easter lily bulbs to the United States of America, and lily bulbs to the United Kingdom. The estimated net value of agricultural produce sold in various countries during the year 1937 was £24,300, as compared with £29,800 for 1936.

The value of agricultural produce sold locally cannot be computed with any degree of accuracy, but is probably in the neighbourhood of £180,000, giving a total net value for agricultural produce in 1937 of approximately £200,000.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The most important trade carried on in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, the majority of which come from America.

There are at least two boats a week from New York, and on an average one a week from Canada and one every three weeks from England, in addition to cruise ships from these countries.

The promotion of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. The Board is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the trade.

An executive department with a staff of eight is regularly employed in carrying on the work of the Board in Bermuda, and information offices are maintained in London, Montreal, Toronto and New York.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Expenditure. £	Tourists. By Regular Ships.	By Cruise Ships.	Total Tourists.
1931 ...	55,959	47,376	25,962	73,338
1932 ...	57,621	45,190	29,324	74,514
1933 ...	61,366	39,878	22,096	61,974
1934 ...	64,144	45,647	29,509	75,156
1935 ...	70,380	50,198	25,826	76,024
1936 ...	71,943	57,270	23,316	80,586
1937 ...	67,768	58,923	24,169	83,092

The average annual expenditure on advertising is approximately £17,000 in the United States of America, £2,400 in Canada, and £1,500 in Great Britain, in addition to which about £5,000 is expended for general publicity and £2,000 for promotional literature. Some £4,500 is spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamship subsidies of about £29,500 annually are included in the expenditures of this Board.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is that of 12s. 6d. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops in the Colony stock the highest class of articles for sale to the tourists. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase dry and fancy goods for the winter season. A comparatively low Custom's tariff of 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent. *ad valorem* enables many articles to be sold at lower prices than in the United States or Canada. It has been estimated that at the least 80 per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from the tourist trade.

Trade Statistics.

(i) VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Year.	Imports. £	Domestic Exports. £	Re-Exports. £
1933	1,397,066	62,588	56,990
1934	1,340,727	51,200	243,542
1935	1,420,198	55,280	66,258
1936	1,891,676	48,415	87,297
1937	2,183,152	32,321	147,414

(ii) PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL IMPORTS PROVIDED BY (*a*) EMPIRE AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND (*b*) THE PRINCIPAL SUPPLYING COUNTRIES.

Year.	Percentages from British Empire.	Foreign Countries.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	United States of America.
1933 ...	58·9	41·1	36·2	20·5	39·3
1934 ...	51·1	48·9	28·8	17·0	40·7
1935 ...	51·3	48·7	30·8	16·1	38·9
1936 ...	51·5	48·5	32·8	14·6	38·6
1937 ...	51·5	48·5	33·0	14·5	39·8

(iii) PERCENTAGE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS SENT TO (*a*) THE EMPIRE AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND (*b*) THE PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION.

Year.	*To British Empire.*	*To Foreign Countries.*	*To Canada.*	*To United States of America.*
1933 ...	48·1	51·9	45·8	51·9
1934 ...	52·6	47·4	51·0	47·4
1935 ...	60·9	39·1	58·3	39·1
1936 ...	56·0	44·0	56·0	44·0
1937 ...	17·9	82·1	12·9	82·1

(iv) PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF IMPORTS DURING 1936 AND 1937.

Year.	*Item.*	*Total Value.* £	*Principal countries of supply with value in £'000.*
1936	Foodstuffs ...	504,098	U.S.A. (171), Canada (150), U.K. (72), South America (46), New Zealand (28).
1937	—	545,154	U.S.A. (204), Canada (161), U.K. (66), South America (46), New Zealand (29).
1936	Woollen Goods ...	123,271	U.K. (105).
1937	—	135,791	U.K. (122).
1936	Beer, Wines and Spirits.	132,237	U.K. (72), France (20), Canada (13), British West Indies (11).
1937	—	99,551	U.K. (59), France (11).
1936	Electrical goods...	74,694	U.S.A. (48), U.K. (19).
1937	—	92,022	U.S.A. (63), U.K. (19).
1936	Cotton goods ...	66,994	U.S.A. (40), U.K. (22).
1937	—	76,663	U.S.A. (47), U.K. (25).

(v) PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS.

	1936. £	*1937.* £
Domestic Exports—		
Vegetables	37,960	15,158
Flowers and bulbs	10,296	16,963
Re-Exports—		
Yachts	5,295	71,040
Barrels (empty)...	45,276	11,509

(vi) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF SPECIE.

Year.	*Imports.* £	*Exports.* £
1933	31	—
1934	2,140	300
1935	168	200
1936	3,392	2,000
1937	131	500

In 1934 specie to the value of £2,000 was imported from the British West Indies and in 1936 imports from the United Kingdom were valued at £3,070.

In 1936 the whole of the exports were to the United States of America.

VIII.—LABOUR.

The number of persons partly or wholly employed in agriculture is estimated at 2,000. A shortage of labour has been felt on the farms for the past two or three years, but some measure of relief has been given by the admission of about 80 Portuguese labourers from the Azores.

The staff for the large hotels is, as far as practicable, recruited locally.

It is however necessary for the hotels to import from the United States of America and Canada a large proportion of the staff, especially for the better paid posts. For this purpose, the Board of Immigration grants permits defining the period of employment and requiring repatriation at the employer's expense on termination of the employment or the expiration of the permit.

Labourers for the building trades are recruited casually and, by a very rough estimate, number 2,200.

In addition, His Majesty's Dockyard gives employment to about 1,000 men.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Agricultural Labourers ...	8s. to 10s. a day 54 hours a week.
Masons	14s. to 20s. a day 53 hours a week.
Painters and Carpenters ...	14s. to 20s. a day 53 hours a week.
Building Labourers ...	8s. to 10s. a day 53 hours a week.
Cooks and Maids	£5 to £10 a month 53 hours a week.
Coachmen	£1 10s. to £2 a week.

Cost of Living.

The cost of living expressed in terms of cash is high in Bermuda as compared with the United Kingdom and other British Colonies; rents, foodstuffs, clothes, fuel and light, and transportation are all dearer.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. The fees are, however, very low. There are separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races. The average number of pupils registered in the schools in 1937 was 4,587, and the average attendance 3,896 or 85 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age at the 31st December, 1937, are as follows:—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided schools	804	2,479	3,283
Unaided schools	254	219	473
Taught at home	12	9	21
Receiving no instruction (including those mentally unfit).	23	40	63
	1,093	2,747	3,840

Of the children shown as taught at home and as receiving no instruction at the end of December, ten and 36 respectively were enrolled in the schools in January, 1938.

Thirty schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, eleven are attended by white and nineteen by coloured children.

The total expenditure from public funds on education in 1937 was £36,546, of which the principal items were:—

	£
Administration	1,669
Pensions	1,156
Scholarships	798
Domestic Training Centre	500
Buildings, upkeep	320
Grants to schools	23,661
Purchase of property and additions to buildings ...	8,000

In six of the aided schools secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held in July and December; and every year candidates from a number of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local university, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are:—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

(*c*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £300 for one year at a University Training Department in Great Britain.

(*d*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £200 for two years at an approved Training College in Great Britain.

(*e*) Two Scholarships for two years each at a training college in Jamaica of an annual value of £110 for a man and £90 for a woman.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared, was 6,227,383 tons.

The following tables show the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships:—

	British.		
	Steam. *Tons.*	*Sail.* *Tons.*	*Total.* *Tons.*
Entered	2,559,419	718	2,560,137
Cleared	2,563,225	718	2,563,943
Total British shipping			5,124,080

	Foreign.		
	Steam. *Tons.*	*Sail.* *Tons.*	*Total.* *Tons.*
Entered	547,274	4,011	551,285
Cleared	548,007	4,011	552,018
Total foreign shipping			1,103,303

The Furness-Bermuda Line operates a service of one to three sailings a week, according to the season, in each direction between New York and Bermuda. The Canadian National Steamship Line operates a weekly service between Canada, Bermuda and the West Indies. Both of these companies are subsidized by the Bermuda Government.

In addition there are direct passenger and freight services between Bermuda and England by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company (monthly), and Elders and Fyffes (every six weeks).

Railways.

A light standard gauge railway 22 miles in length connects both ends of the island to Hamilton.

Roads.

No major development took place during the year. Widenings and improvements to roads were carried out. The roads are not constructed for general motor traffic, and motor vehicles except the Government and Municipal lorries, ambulances and fire engines, are prohibited. The roads are for horse-drawn vehicles and bicycles. For these purposes they are satisfactory.

Cables and Wireless.

The Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited, associated with Cable and Wireless Limited, operates cable, wireless and wireless telephone services between Bermuda and all parts of the world.

For cables and wireless messages the full rate to England is 2s. 4d. a word, to New York 1s. 6d. a word. The wireless telephone charges are $36 and $15 respectively for three minutes.

Postal.

The number of parcels received was 60,540. The Money Order business amounted to £63,797. Of this, orders to the value of £58,121 were issued and £5,676 paid. The transit to London for mails is 10-14 days. The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire is 1½d. for the first ounce and 1d. for each additional ounce.

Telephones.

There are about 11,600 miles of telephone line, including underground cables, owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £12 (residential) to £20 per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges. The system is automatic throughout the Colony. The number of subscribers is 2,182.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure on Public Works, annually recurrent and extraordinary including Channel Works, was £85,606 as compared with £63,436 in 1936 and £53,397 in 1935.

Of the total expended £20,103 was on dredging, mainly on the Narrows and Town Cut Channels, which were improved.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND PRISONS.

The Judicial Department consists of the Supreme Court and three Magisterial Courts.

The Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and one or two Assistant Justices.

The Magisterial Courts are presided over by one Police Magistrate each.

During the year 1,401 persons were prosecuted of whom 76 were discharged and 1,288 punished on summary conviction, the remaining 37 were dealt with by the Supreme Court. Of the 1,288 persons dealt with summarily, 119 were sentenced to imprisonment and of the 37 dealt with by the Supreme Court 31 were sentenced to imprisonment.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts passed during 1937.

No.	*Title.*
1.	The Continental Company Act, 1937.
2.	The Liquor Licence Act, 1937.
3.	The Medical Registration Act, 1905, Amendment Act, 1937.
4.	The Poor Relief Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1937.
5.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1936, Amendment Act, 1937.
6.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1935, Amendment Act, 1937.
7.	The Supreme Court Act, 1905, Amendment Act, 1937.
8.	The Sueart Trading Company Act, 1937.
9.	The Quality Bakery and Trading Company Land Acquisition Act, 1937.
10.	The Firearms Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1937.
11.	The Channels Improvement Act, 1937.
12.	The Municipalities Act, 1923, Amendment Act, 1937.
13.	The Liquor Licence Act, 1936, Amendment Act, 1937.
14.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1935 Amendment Act (No. 2), 1937.
15.	The Kaybar Company Limited Act, 1937.
16.	The Crosswinds Company Limited Act, 1937.
17.	The Reid Hall Act, 1937.
18.	The New Windsor Hotel Act, 1937.
19.	The Boards Act, 1929, Amendment Act, 1937.
20.	The Coronation Holidays Act, 1937.
21.	The Bermuda Historical Monument Trust Act, 1937.
22.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1936, Amendment Act, (No. 2), 1937.
23.	The Advertisements Regulations Act, 1911, Amendment Act, 1937.
24.	The Bermuda Mining Investment Company Act, 1937.
25.	The Immigration Act, 1937.
26.	The Revenue Act, 1898, Amendment Act, 1937.
27.	The Public Works Department Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1937.
28.	The Deportation (British Subjects) Act, 1937.
29.	The Non-Domiciled Persons Registration Act, 1937.
30.	The New York Communication Act, 1937.
31.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1936, Amendment Act, (No. 3), 1937.
32.	The New York Communication Act, (No. 2), 1937.
33.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1937.
34.	The Public Carriage Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1937.
35.	The Audit Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1937.
36.	The Revenue Act, 1898, Amendment Act, (No. 2), 1937.
37.	The Bermuda Domestic Science School Act, 1936, Amendment Act, 1937.
38.	The Treasury Payments Act, 1937.
39.	The Apprenticeship Bonus Act, 1937.
40.	The Public Officers' Salaries Act, 1937.
41.	The Newton Bay Association Land Act, 1937.
42.	The Ridgewood Trading Company Limited Act, 1937.
43.	The Importation of Textiles (Quotas) Act, 1934, Amendment Act, 1937.
44.	The Martha Aletta Maury Relief Act, 1937.
45.	The Liquor Licence Act, 1936, Amendment Act, 1937.
46.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1937.
47.	The Reserve Fund Act, 1937.
48.	The Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1937.
49.	The Appropriation Act, 1937.
50.	The Interpretation Act, 1907, Amendment Act, 1937.
51.	The Royal Navy Air Service Act, 1937.
52.	The Public Health Act, 1937.
53.	The Public Works Department Act, 1930, Amendment Act, (No. 2), 1937.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are two private banks in the Colony, The Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield and Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £1,231,693 and £1,127,746 respectively.

English currency and weights and measures are the legal standard. There is, however, a Bermuda Government note issue of £1, 10s. and 5s. denominations to supplement the supply of English notes, which is small. Notes in circulation on 31st December, 1937, amounted to £190,943. The total assets of the Note Security Fund, which is a security for this liability, were, on 31st December, 1937, £246,738.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1933-7:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1933	403,697	414,667
1934	370,250	372,065
1935	391,896	371,440
1936	431,399	412,414
1937	476,678	450,754

Of the total revenue for the year 1937 £328,386 represents Customs receipts.

No changes were made, during the year under review, in the method of raising revenue.

There is a General Reserve Fund the market value of which on 31st December, 1937, was £47,169.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December, 1937, was £97,999 against £89,108 in 1936, and 82,579 in 1935.

The public debt of the Colony stood at £75,000 at the end of the year. A sum of £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927 and £5,000 in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December, 1937, was £48,569.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1937, was £302,619.

The total assets amounted to £595,983 of which £246,738 was held for the redemption of Government Notes, £105,692 for the Savings Bank and £75,928 for the Superannuation Fund.

The revenue from Customs tariffs was derived as follows:—

	£
From *ad valorem* duties	119,358
,, surtax	37,323
,, duty on spirits and wines	45,775
,, cigars, cigarettes and tobacco	20,254
,, malt liquor	12,821
,, export tax	3,953
,, other specific duties	88,902
	£328,386

There is a stamp tax of 12s. 6d. on passenger tickets in respect of every person leaving Bermuda. Revenue from this source is about £42,000. A stamp tax of 1d. is payable in respect of all receipts for £1 or more and in respect of all cheques.

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. A. W. G. H. Grantham, Colonial Secretary, acted as Governor during His Excellency the Governor's absence on leave from the 23rd July to the 25th October, 1937.

The New Year's Honours List contained the following award:—

C.B.E. (Civil Division).—Mr. William James Howard Trott, M.C.P.

The Coronation Honours List contained the following award:—

O.B.E. (Civil Division).—Mr. Robert Charles Crawford, M.C.P.

(11484—48) Wt. 1349—40 625 8/38 P. St. G. 377/7

W Lon 64° 54'

W Lon 64° 37'

N Lat 32°23'

N Lat 32°23'

A T L A N T I C O C E A N

MURRAY'S ANCHORAGE

St CATHERINE POINT

THE NARROWS

St GEORGE'S ISLAND

Barracks

St GEORGE

St GEORGE'S HARBOUR

Smith's

St DAVID'S HEAD

St DAVID'S ISLAND

Lighthouse

Cove Point

FERRY REACH

Long Bird Island

CASTLE HARBOUR

Cooper's Island

Nonsuch Island

HAMILTON

HARRINGTON SOUND

SMITH'S

DEVONSHIRE

PEMBROKE

Prospect Camp

HAMILTON

HAMILTON or CROW LANE HARBOUR

PAGET

Hinson I.

Spanish Point

Agar's I.

Elizabeth I.

Hawkins I.

Ports Island

GRANAWAY DEEP

GREAT SOUND

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ELY'S HARBOUR

SANDYS

LOBSTER FLAT

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Dockyard

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MANGROVE BAY

BOAZ ISLAND

Watford Island

THE ISLANDS OF BERMUDA.

Scale of Miles

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Parish Boundaries .....

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Continued on page 3 of cover

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BERMUDA, 1938

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE AND HISTORY.

Geography.

The Bermudas or Somers Islands are a cluster of a large number of small islands situated in the West Atlantic Ocean, in 32° 15′ north latitude and 64° 51′ west longitude, comprising an area of about 19 square miles, and containing a population in 1931 of 27,789. The estimated density of the population is 1,407 per square mile. The nearest point of the mainland is Cape Hatteras in North Carolina, 580 miles distant. The Colony is divided into nine parishes. The capital is the city of Hamilton (population about 3,000). The only other commercial harbour of importance for sea-going ships is St. George's in the extreme east of the group. There is a naval dockyard, as Bermuda is the headquarters of the West Indies and Atlantic Squadron.

Climate.

The range of temperature during 1938 was between 49·8° F. (in March) and 93·7° (in August). The mean temperature for the year was 71·8° F. and the mean relative humidity 78 per cent. The total rainfall was 57·96 inches, ·03 inches below the average for the 30 years 1901–1930.

History.

According to the Spanish navigator and historian, Ferdinand d'Oveido, who visited these islands in 1615, they were discovered at an earlier date by Juan de Bermudez, after whom they were called the Bermudas. The exact date of the discovery is not known, but a map contained in the first edition of the *Legatio Babylonica* of Peter Martyr, published in 1511, shows the island " La Bermuda " in approximately correct position.

No aborigines were found on the islands by the early voyagers, and the Spaniards took no steps to found a settlement.

The islands were still entirely uninhabited when, in 1609, Admiral Sir George Somers' ship *The Sea Venture*, while on a voyage with a fleet of eight other vessels conveying a party of colonists to the new plantations then being formed in Virginia, was wrecked upon one of the numerous sunken reefs which surround the islands on every side. The reef is still called, after the name of the Admiral's ship, the Sea Venture Flat. The stranding of *The Sea Venture* furnished the inspiration for Shakespeare's " Tempest."

Sir George Somers died in Bermuda the following year and his companions, ignorant possibly of the prior claims of Juan de Bermudez, called the group " The Somers Islands." The reports of the beauty and fertility of the land, taken home by Somers' nephew, Captain Mathew Somers, induced the Virginia Company to seek an extension for their charter, so as to include the islands within their dominions, and this extension was readily granted by King James I, but shortly afterwards the Virginia Company sold the islands for a sum of £2,000 to a new body of adventurers called " The Governor and Company of the City of London for the Plantation of the Somers Island."

During the first 25 years of its existence the settlement prospered exceedingly under the government of the Company, but as the original shareholders, who included many of the most distinguished men of the time, died or disposed of their holdings, the administration was neglected, and the settlers became subject to many grievances and abuses. Finally, in 1679 they appealed to the Crown for redress, and in 1684, a verdict having been given under a writ of *Quo Warranto* against the Charter of the Bermuda Company the Government of the Colony passed to the Crown, and the Company, the members of which then held only 25 shares of land in the island was dissolved.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

The Orders and Constitution of the Colony under the Bermuda Company made provision for a reasonable amount of self-government by the settlers, including the right to elect representatives to make laws within certain restrictions. The first General Assembly for Bermuda was held at St. George's on 1st August, 1620.

When the Government passed to the Crown in 1684, the Commission to the first Royal Governor confirmed the grant of representative institutions, which have been continued without interruption until the present day.

The laws of the Colony are enacted by a Legislature consisting of the Governor, the Legislative Council, and the House of Assembly.

The Governor is assisted by an Executive Council consisting at present of four official and three unofficial members. The Legislative Council consists of nine members of whom three are official and six nominated unofficial. The House of Assembly consists of 36 members, four of whom are elected by each of the nine parishes. There are about 2,717 electors, the electoral qualification being the possession of freehold property of not less than £60 value. The qualification for a member of the House of Assembly is the possession of freehold property rated at £240. The members of the Executive Council and of the Legislature are paid 8s. a day for each day's attendance.

A number of the departments of Government are controlled by Executive Boards, composed of unofficials nominated by the Governor, with the head of the department acting in an advisory capacity only. A majority of the members of most Boards are members of the House of Assembly.

There are two municipalities and nine parish vestries exercising the right to impose local taxes.

III.—CIVIL POPULATION.

	White.			*Coloured.*			
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Grand Total.*
1921 Census ...	3,282	3,724	7,006	6,347	6,774	13,121	20,127
1931 ,, ...	6,090	5,263	11,353	8,084	8,352	16,436	27,789
1938 estimated ...	6,530	5,710	12,240	9,411	9,737	19,148	31,388*

The following are the figures for births and deaths in 1938 :—

	White.			*Coloured.*			
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Grand Total.*
Living births ...	103	116	219	272	278	550	769
Deaths	64	58	122	113	97	210	332
Excess births over deaths.	39	58	97	159	181	340	437

The living birth-rate amongst the civilian population was 24·4 per 1,000, being 17·8 amongst the white and 28·7 amongst the coloured population. The illegitimacy rate was 22·3 per cent. (7·2 white and 28·0 coloured). The death-rate was 11·4 per 1,000 (10·2 white and 12·2 coloured).

* The following is the result of a special census taken on the 26th March 1939 :—

	White.			*Coloured.*			
	Male.	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*	*Grand Total.*
1939 Census ...	5,774	5,707	11,481	9,439	9,894	19,333	30,814

IV.—HEALTH.

Although other mosquitoes are fairly plentiful, the anopheles has never existed in the islands, which have consequently been free from malaria. Severe epidemics of any kind have been few and far between.

The number of infectious diseases notified from 1933 to 1938, with the principal contributors, were as follows :—

	1933.	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1937.*	*1938.*
Anterior-poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	7	2
Chickenpox	15	60	130	73	35	100
Diphtheria	23	14	6	5	1	1
Typhoid	4	5	14	7	2	—
Tuberculosis	13	14	14	16	11	17
Measles	8	5	7	7	24	11
German Measles	1	1	114	200	24	—
Scarlet Fever	8	7	6	44	39	25
Whooping-cough	199	—	8	6	4	4
Mumps	3	52	161	148	4	12

Notwithstanding unavoidable delays in providing a pavilion for tuberculous patients, the incidence of tuberculosis is satisfactory compared with other places, but with the outstanding climatic and economic advantages of these islands it should be better than it is.

The infant mortality was 45 per 1,000 for the white and 65 for coloured.

Anti-syphilitic treatment is administered free by the medical officers at the hospital and at each end of the island.

V.—HOUSING.

Building activity remained at a high level, except at St. George's, where the supply is now above the demand.

The original style of architecture, dating back to the early part of the seventeenth century, has been retained in its principal elements, and is widely known for its simple and charming proportions.

The question of finding a more economical method of construction is being investigated with a view of enabling inexpensive but substantial houses to be built for the labouring community.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

With the exception of the tourist trade, the principal industry of the Colony is agriculture. The farming land under arable cultivation is estimated at 1,000 acres, most of which bears two or three crops each year. The chief crops grown are vegetables, such as potatoes, celery, carrots and tomatoes, which are produced most abundantly during the winter and spring months. The growing of Easter lilies is also of some importance.

Sufficient dairy cattle of good quality are kept to meet the local demand for fresh milk, and poultry-keeping is increasing in importance. Only a small proportion of the meat-supply, consisting chiefly of veal, beef and pork, is produced locally.

In the past years large quantities of vegetables were exported to the North American continent, but at the present time exports have greatly declined and the domestic markets provide the most profitable outlet for produce. A small export trade in vegetables with Canada is still maintained, however, and in 1938 the volume shipped amounted to 53,875 bushels, as against 54,647 bushels in the previous year. Most of the lily flowers and bulbs exported were destined for the United States of America, but a smaller quantity of bulbs was shipped to the United Kingdom. The estimated net value of agricultural produce (exclusive of cut flowers) sold in various countries during the year 1938 was £19,600, as compared with £24,300 in 1937.

The value of agricultural produce sold locally cannot be computed with any degree of accuracy, but it is probably about £200,000.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The most important trade carried on in Bermuda is that of catering for tourists, approximately ninety-five per cent. of whom come from America.

There are at least two boats a week from New York, and on an average one a week from Canada and one every three weeks from England, in addition to cruise ships from these countries.

The promotion of the tourist trade is in the hands of the Bermuda Trade Development Board, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. The Board is composed entirely of unofficials and mainly of persons financially interested in the success of the trade.

An executive department, with a staff of eight, is regularly employed in carrying on the work of the Board in Bermuda, and information offices are maintained in London, Montreal, Toronto and New York.

The public funds voted by the Legislature and expended for the services controlled by this Board, and the number of tourists annually, are shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Expenditure.*	*Tourists.*		
		By Regular Ships.	*By Cruise Ships.*	*Total Tourists.*
	£			
1931 ...	55,959	47,376	25,962	73,338
1932 ...	57,621	45,190	29,324	74,514
1933 ...	61,366	39,878	22,096	61,974
1934 ...	64,144	45,647	29,509	75,156
1935 ...	70,380	50,198	25,826	76,024
1936 ...	71,943	57,270	23,316	80,586
1937 ...	68,100	58,646	24,169	82,815
1938 ...	78,744	56,625	25,437	82,062

The 1938 appropriation for advertising was approximately £19,000 for the United States of America, £2,500 for Canada, and £2,000 for Great Britain, in addition to which about £6,000 was expended for general publicity and £3,000 for promotional literature. Some £6,000 was spent locally for the entertainment of visitors. Steamship subsidies of about £33,500 annually are included in the expenditures.

The only direct tax affecting tourists is one of 12s. 6d. on every passenger ticket for persons leaving Bermuda. This tax applies to all residents as well as to visitors.

The shops of the Colony are exceptionally good, and are noted for the fine quality of their stocks of glass, china, woollens and clothing generally. Buyers from the chief houses go to Europe every summer to purchase goods for the winter season. A comparatively low Customs Tariff enables many articles to be sold at lower prices than in the United States of America or Canada. It has been estimated that at least eighty-five per cent. of the revenue of the Colony is derived from tourist trade.

Trade Statistics

(i) VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Year.	*Imports.*	*Domestic Exports.*	*Re-Exports.*
	£	£	£
1934	1,340,727	51,200	243,542
1935	1,420,198	55,280	66,258
1936	1,891,676	48,415	87,297
1937	2,183,152	32,321	147,414
1938	1,906,688	51,003	94,940

(ii) PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL IMPORTS PROVIDED BY (*a*) EMPIRE AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND (*b*) THE PRINCIPAL SUPPLYING COUNTRIES.

	Percentages from				
Year.	*British Empire.*	*Foreign countries.*	*United Kingdom.*	*Canada.*	*United States of America.*
1934	51·1	48·9	28·8	17·0	40·7
1935	51·3	48·7	30·8	16·1	38·9
1936	51·5	48·5	32·8	14·6	38·6
1937	51·5	48·5	33·0	14·5	39·8
1938	48·5	51·5	29·4	14·6	43·9

(iii) PERCENTAGE OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS SENT TO (*a*) THE EMPIRE AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND (*b*) THE PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION.

Year.	*To British Empire.*	*To Foreign countries.*	*To Canada.*	*To United States of America.*
1934 ...	52·6	47·4	51·0	47·4
1935 ...	60·9	39·1	58·3	39·1
1936 ...	56·0	44·0	56·0	44·0
1937 ...	17·9	82·1	12·9	82·1
1938 ...	49·0	51·0	32·9	51·0

(iv) PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF IMPORTS DURING 1937 AND 1938

Year.	*Item.*	*Total Value.* £	*Principal countries of supply with value in £'000.*
1937	Foodstuffs ...	545,154	U.S.A. (204), Canada (161), U.K. (66), South America (46), New Zealand (29).
1938	Foodstuffs ...	504,476	U.S.A. (185), Canada (147), U.K. (63), South America (44), New Zealand (30).
1937	Woollen goods ...	135,791	U.K. (122).
1938	Woollen goods ...	108,041	U.K. (95), U.S.A. (9).
1937	Beer, Wines and Spirits.	99,551	U.K. (59), France (11).
1938	Beer, Wines and Spirits.	95,729	U.K. (57), France (7), Canada (5), British West Indies (11).
1937	Electrical goods...	92,022	U.S.A. (63), U.K. (19).
1938	Electrical goods...	95,107	U.S.A. (59), U.K. (27).
1937	Cotton goods ...	76,663	U.S.A. (47), U.K. (25).
1938	Cotton goods ...	63,107	U.S.A. (43), U.K. (16).

(v) PRINCIPAL ITEMS OF DOMESTIC EXPORTS AND RE-EXPORTS.

	1937. £	*1938.* £
Domestic Exports—		
Vegetables	15,158	27,109
Flowers and bulbs	16,963	23,791
Re-Exports—		
Yachts	71,040	19,110
Barrels (empty)...	11,509	45,469

(vi) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF SPECIE.

Year.	*Imports.* £	*Exports.* £
1934	2,140	300
1935	168	200
1936	3,392	2,000
1937	131	500
1938	—	—

In 1934 specie to the value of £2,000 was imported from the British West Indies and in 1936 imports from the United Kingdom were valued at £3,070.

In 1936 the whole of the exports were to the United States of America.

VIII.—LABOUR.

There has been for several years an increasing difficulty in obtaining farm labourers and the number partly or wholly employed in agriculture is now estimated at only 1,000.

The staffs for the large hotels are, as far as practicable, recruited locally. It is, however, necessary for the hotels to import from the United States of America and Canada a large proportion of the staff, especially for the better-paid posts. For this purpose, the Board of Immigration grants permits defining the period of employment and requiring repatriation at the employer's expense on termination of the employment or the expiration of the permit.

Labourers for the building trades are recruited casually and, by a very rough estimate, number 2,200.

In addition, His Majesty's Dockyard gives employment to about 1,000 men.

There are no factories in Bermuda and consequently there is no factory legislation.

No laws affecting labour have been passed during the year under review.

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Agricultural labourers	...	8s. to 10s. a day, 54 hours a week.
Masons	...	14s. to 20s. a day, 53 hours a week.
Painters and Carpenters	...	14s. to 20s. a day, 53 hours a week.
Building labourers ...	...	8s. to 10s. a day, 53 hours a week.
Cooks and Maids ...	...	£5 to £10 a month.
Coachmen	...	£1 10s. to £2 a week.

Cost of Living.

The cost of living expressed in terms of cash is high in Bermuda as compared with the United Kingdom and other British Colonies; rents, fuel and light and transportation are all dearer; foodstuffs, particularly the tinned variety, do not compare unfavourably with those in some colonies; women's clothing is not expensive and generally extremely well cut. All alcohol is cheap.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education is compulsory between the ages of 7 and 13, but is not free except in a few particular cases. The fees are, however, very low. There are separate schools for white and coloured children, but there is no difference in the standard of education as between the races. The average number of pupils registered in the schools in 1938 was 4,723, and the average attendance 4,022 or 85 per cent.

The statistical records regarding the children of school age at the 31st December, 1938, are as follows:—

	White.	*Coloured.*	*Total.*
Aided schools	822	2,458	3,280
Unaided schools	263	217	480
Taught at home	8	5	13
Receiving no instruction (including those mentally unfit).	12	45	57
	1,105	2,725	3,830

Of the children shown as taught at home and as receiving no instruction at the end of December, three and twenty-nine respectively were enrolled in the schools in January, 1939.

Thirty schools are in receipt of grants from the Board of Education. Of these, twelve are attended by white and eighteen by coloured children.

The total expenditure from public funds on education in 1938 was £40,090, of which the principal items were :—

	£
Administration	1,882
Pensions	1,145
Scholarships	828
Domestic Training Centre	875
Buildings, upkeep...	424
Grants to schools and scholarships for training of teachers.	25,743
Purchase of property and improvements to school premises.	9,193

In six of the aided schools, secondary school subjects are taught in the higher forms. The Colony is a centre for the Cambridge Local Examinations, which are held in July and December, and every year candidates from a number of the local schools sit for these examinations. There is no local university, and no local institute for the training of teachers.

A Rhodes Scholarship (of £400) is awarded to Bermuda each year, and in addition there are :—

(*a*) The Bermuda Scholarship, which was provided by Government for the purpose of enabling prospective candidates for the Rhodes Scholarship to proceed to some educational institution abroad for a period of three years. The annual value of this scholarship is £200.

(*b*) The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship, also provided by Government, by which are established four scholarships each of the value of £150, tenable for a term not exceeding four years " to assist and encourage youths educated in these islands to proceed to institutions abroad for the purpose of acquiring technical and higher educational advantages than it is possible to obtain in these islands."

(*c*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £300 for one year at a University Training Department in Great Britain.

(*d*) A Teachers' Training Scholarship of £200 for two years at an approved Training College in Great Britain.

(*e*) Two Scholarships for two years each at a training college in Jamaica of an annual value of £110 for a man and of £90 for a woman.

Domestic Training Centre.—This Centre was started in 1936 with a view to providing courses of training for domestic workers of both sexes, especially for those seeking work in the local hotels. Classes are also held for school girls. The Centre is at present receiving a grant of £1,150 a year from Government funds, and there are two fully-trained English teachers on the staff.

Apprentices.—A number of apprentices, about ten a year, are accepted for training at the Naval Dockyard. These apprentices are recruited by a competitive entrance examination and are admitted between the ages of 14 and 16 on indentures for five years.

No premium is required and the boys receive wages during the period of their apprenticeship. There are, however, often more vacancies than applicants for these appointments. The trades open to apprentices are generally those of shipwright, engine-fitter, electrical fitter, ship-fitter, blacksmith, plumber, joiner, boiler-maker, coppersmith, mason, carpenter, rigger, sailmaker, pattern-maker, and founder. In addition to his practical training, each apprentice is given the opportunity of attending the Dockyard School for theoretical instruction in a number of subjects. This privilege continues for four years, if apprentices show sufficient promise.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Shipping.

The total shipping for the year under review, entered and cleared was 6,441,284 tons.

The following tables show the details of the above total, distinguishing between British and foreign ships and between steam and sailing ships :—

	British.		
	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	*Tons.*	*Tons.*
Entered	2,648,393	214	2,648,607
Cleared	2,648,389	214	2,648,603
Total British shipping			5,297,210

	Foreign.		
	Steam.	*Sail.*	*Total.*
	Tons.	*Tons.*	*Tons.*
Entered	570,705	960	571,665
Cleared	571,449	960	572,409
Total foreign shipping			1,144,074

The Furness–Bermuda Line operates a service of one to three sailings a week, according to the season, in each direction between New York and Bermuda. The Canadian National Steamship Line operates a weekly service between Canada, Bermuda and the West Indies. Both of these companies are subsidized by the Bermuda Government.

In addition there are direct passenger and freight services between Bermuda and England by the Pacific Steam Navigation Company (monthly) and Elders and Fyffes (every six weeks).

Railways.

A light standard-gauge railway, 22 miles in length, connects both ends of the island to Hamilton.

Roads.

Roads were maintained up to the usual standard. Widenings and improvements were carried out. The roads are not constructed for general motor traffic, and motor vehicles, except the Government and Municipal lorries, ambulances and fire-engines, are prohibited. The roads are for horse-drawn vehicles and bicycles. For these purposes they are satisfactory.

Cables and Wireless.

The Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited, associated with Cable and Wireless Limited, operates cable, wireless and wireless telephone services between Bermuda and all parts of the world.

For cables and wireless messages the full rate to England is 1s. 3d. a word, to New York 1s. 6d. a word. The wireless telephone charges are $27 and $15 respectively for three minutes.

Postal.

The number of parcels received was 62,925. The money-order business amounted to £62,229. Of this, orders to the value of £55,653 were issued and £6,576 paid. The transit to London for mails is 10–14 days. The postage on letters to all parts of the Empire is 1½d. for the first ounce and 1d. for each additional ounce.

Telephones.

There are about 11,600 miles of telephone line, including underground cables, owned by the Bermuda Telephone Company. The rates for a one-party service are from £12 (residential) to £20 per annum. There is no limit to the number of calls and there are no toll or mileage charges. The system is automatic throughout the Colony. The number of subscribers is 2,257.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure on public works, annually recurrent, and extraordinary, including channel works, was £89,224 as compared with £85,606 in 1937 and £63,436 in 1936. Of the total expended, £25,496 was on dredging, mainly on the Narrows and Town Cut channels, which were improved.

XIII.—JUSTICE AND PRISONS.

The Judicial Department consists of the Supreme Court and two Magisterial Courts.

The Supreme Court is presided over by the Chief Justice and one or two Assistant Justices.

The Magisterial Courts are presided over by one Police Magistrate each.

During the year, 1,285 persons were prosecuted, of whom 91 were discharged and 1,152 punished on summary conviction; the remaining 32 were dealt with by the Supreme Court. Of the 1,152 persons dealt with summarily, 107 were sentenced to imprisonment, and of the 32 dealt with by the Supreme Court, 22 were sentenced to imprisonment.

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts passed during 1938.

No.	*Title.*
1.	The Public Carriage Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1938.
2.	The Assistant Clerk of the House of Assembly Act, 1938.
3.	The Bermuda Railway Company Advertisement Act, 1938.
4.	The Horace Hamilton Smith Compassionate Act, 1938.
5.	The Corporation of St. George's Land Act, 1938.
6.	The Islands Company Act, 1938.
7.	The Imperial Agricultural Bureaux Act, 1938.
8.	The Imperial Shipping and Imperial Economic Committee Act, 1938.
9.	The Civil Service Establishment Act, 1937, Amendment Act, 1938.
10.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1937, Amendment Act, 1938.
11.	The Interpretation Act, 1907, Amendment Act, 1938.
12.	The Bermuda Railway Act, 1924, Amendment Act, 1938.
13.	The Board of Trade Act, 1930, Amendment Act, 1938.
14.	The Saltus Trust Act, 1938.
15.	The Cavello Bay Exchange of Lands Act, 1938.
16.	The Pensions Act, 1938.
17.	The E.S. Outerbridge Compassionate Allowance Act, 1938.
18.	The Liquor License Act, 1938.
19.	The Bermuda Scholarships Act, 1927, Amendment Act, 1938.
20.	The Bermuda (Technical Education) Scholarship Act, 1924, Amendment Act, 1938.
21.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1937, Amendment Act, 1938.
22.	The Importation of Potatoes Act, 1938.
23.	The Liquor License Act, 1936, Amendment Act, 1938.
24.	The Pensions Act, 1938, Amendment Act, 1938.
25.	The Coroners Act, 1938.
26.	The Butterfield and Company Act, 1938.
27.	The Passenger Ships Act, 1938.
28.	The Liquor License Act, 1936, Amendment Act (No. 2), 1938.
29.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1938.
30.	The Expiring Laws Continuance Act, 1938.
31.	The Appropriation Act, 1938.
32.	The Immigration Act, 1937, Amendment Act, 1938.
33.	The Deportation (British Subjects) Act, 1937, Amendment Act, 1938.
34.	The Customs Tariff Act, 1938, Amendment Act, 1938.
35.	The St. George's Dredging Act, 1938.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

There are two private banks in the Colony, the Bank of Bermuda, Limited, and the Bank of N. T. Butterfield & Son, Limited. The assets of these banks as shown in their last published statements amounted to £1,243,636 and £1,130,343 respectively.

English currency and weights and measures are the legal standard. There is, however, a Bermuda Government note issue of £1, 10s. and 5s. denominations to supplement the supply of English notes, which is small. Notes in circulation on 31st December, 1938, amounted to £200,943. The total assets of the Note Security Fund, which is a security for this liability, were, on 31st December, 1938, £249,443.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

The following table shows the total revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the years 1934–8 :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1934	363,474	372,065
1935	385,339	364,723
1936	431,399	412,414
1937	476,678	450,755
1938	460,002	452,072

Of the total revenue for the year 1938, £309,380 represents Customs receipts.

During the year under review no changes were made in the method of raising revenue.

There is a General Reserve Fund, the market value of which on 31st December, 1938, was £77,021.

The amount standing to the credit of depositors in the Savings Bank on 31st December, 1938, was £108,867 against £97,999 in 1937, and £89,108 in 1936.

The public debt of the Colony stood at £75,000 at the end of the year. A sum of £45,000 was borrowed in 1920, £5,000 in 1925, £20,000 in 1927 and £5,000 in 1930. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on 31st December, 1938, was £50,212.

The estimated excess of assets over liabilities on 31st December, 1938, was £301,924.

The total assets amounted to £616,285, of which £249,443 was held for the redemption of Government Notes, £114,639 for the Savings Bank and £77,018 for the Superannuation Fund.

The revenue from Customs tariffs was derived as follows :—

	£
From *ad valorem* duties	106,341
,, surtax	37,558
,, duty on spirits and wines	48,179
,, cigars, cigarettes and tobacco	19,806
,, malt liquor	12,442
,, export tax...	3,800
,, other specific duties	81,254
	£309,380

There is a stamp tax of 12s. 6d. on passenger tickets in respect of every person leaving Bermuda. Revenue from this source is about £44,000. A stamp tax of 1d. is payable in respect of all receipts for £1 or more and in respect of all cheques.

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. A. W. G. H. Grantham, Colonial Secretary, was transferred to Jamaica as Colonial Secretary with effect from the 29th August, 1938.

Lieut.-Colonel K. I. Gourlay, D.S.O., M.C., acted as Governor during His Excellency the Governor's absence on leave from the 15th August to the 2nd October, 1938.

Major E. A. T. Dutton, C.B.E., was appointed Colonial Secretary with effect from the 25th September, 1938, and arrived in the Colony to take up his duties on the 5th October, 1938.

Mr. J. T. Gilbert, O.B.E., was appointed Attorney-General on the 1st January, 1938.

(18198—48) Wt. 1642—4310 625 7/39 P. St. G. 377

W. Lon. 64° 54'

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THE NARROWS

St GEORGE'S ISLAND

St GEORGE

St GEORGE'S HARBOUR

Smith's

St DAVID'S HEAD

St DAVID'S ISLAND

Lighthouse Cove Point

FERRY REACH

Long Bird Island

CASTLE HARBOUR

Cooper's Island

Nonsuch Island

HAMILTON

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SHELLY BAY

SMITH'S

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Elizabeth I.

Hawkins I.

Nonsuch I.

Porter's Island

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